# THE READER

# A REVIEW OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

No. 48, Vol. II.

Saturday, November 28, 1863.

( Price Fourpence, Stamped, Fivepence.

CASES FOR BINDING VOL. I. OF "THE READER,"

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FIRE AT 102, FLEET STREET.

MR. FREEMAN thanks his Neighbours for their generous offers of assistance and accommodation, and begs to inform THE TRADE and THE PUBLIC that The London Christian Times is published as usual. "SHIRLEY HALL ASYLUM" and the books advertised, but which are now destroyed, will be reprinted as speedily as possible. Letters and parcels may, for the present, be addressed to 147, Fleet Street, E.C. Nov. 18, 1863.

### LIVERPOOL and LONDON FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

At the ANNUAL MEETING of the Proprietors in this Company, held on Thursday, 25th of February, 1863,

JAMES ASPINALL TOBIN, Esq., in the Chair,

The Report of the Directors for the Year 1862 was read; it showed:—

That the Fire Premiums of the Year were Against those in 1861, which were 

In reference to the very large increase of £76,000 in the Fire Premiums of the year, it was remarked in the Report, "The Premiums paid to a company are the measure of that company's business of all kinds; the Directors therefore prefer that test of progress to any the duty collected may afford, as that applies to only a part of a company's business, and a large share of that part may be, and often is, re-insured with other offices. In this view the yearly addition to the Fire Premiums of the Liverpool and London Company must be very gratifying to the proprietors."

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TURES.—The following Courses of Lectures will be delivered during the Session.

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"On Fine Art applied to Industry," by W. Burges, Esq.

"Chemistry Applied to the Arts," by Dr. F. Crace Calvert, F.R.S. Mr. Hastings' Course, consisting of Four Lectures, will commence before Christmas. The first, "On the Law of Blockade," will be delivered on Monday Evening, the 7th December, at 8 o'clock.

These Lectures are free to Members of the "Society of Arts," each of whom has also the privilege of admitting two Friends to each Lecture. The Wednesday Evening Meetings will be held as usual.

By Order of the Council, P. LE NEVE FOSTER, Secretary.

25th November, 1863.

POYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INstitution, 14, John Street, Adelphi, London. — During
the recent heavy gales some of the boats of the Royal National
Lifeboat Institution have been instrumental in rescuing the
crews of the following shipwrecked vessels:—Barque Tamworth,
of Norway, 17 men; schooner Northern Lights, of Preston, 4;
schooner Arion, of Workington, 4; schooner Gipsy, of Drogheda,
4; smack Saucy Jack, of Inverness, 1; barque Marietta, of
Lisbon, 1; and barque Providence, of Dantzic, 7. Total lives
saved, 38. The lifeboats also assisted in bringing safely into
port, with their crews, consisting of 20 men, the Italian brig
Camoglino; the schooner Sir Colin Campbell, of Whitby; the
schooner Guilia, of Palermo; and the ketch Snip, of Amsterdam.
The lifeboats also went off in reply to signals of distress on
twelve occasions, but their services were not ultimately required.
The amount of reward paid for all these services was 2:106. The
Committee of the Institution appeal to the public for assistance
to enable them to meet the continued heavy demands on the
Society's 125 lifeboat establishments. Since the establishment
of the Institution, nearly 14.400 lives have been saved by its
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The Colossal Car, with its various fittings and appliances is also on view for a few days. Visitors may now pass through the Car, and inspect its interior arrangements. A charge of Sixpence each will be made. The Palace lighted up each evening.

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From the Times, Sept. 3, 1863.

"THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.—In the Mathematical Section yesterday, a large number of papers were read, but only one was of any general interest. It was by Mr. H. Swan, and gave an account of a new invention in portrait-taking. By a peculiar arrangement of two rectangular prisms, the appearance of a perfectly solid figure is given to a picture, and portraits which were unsatisfactory on a flat surface, have so much expression thrown into them by this invention, as to become quite pleasing and truthful."

From the Standard, Sept. 2), 1863.

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From the Illustrated London News, Oct. 3, 1863,

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From the Intellectual Observer, for November, 1863.

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"REST AND BE THANKFUL."

NOTHING fastens on the public mind like a happy phrase; and our eminent political men have this advantage that, if they do, in any of their speeches, utter a phrase that is slightly picturesque, then, as all the newspapers report their speeches, and all the lieges read them, the phrase is caught up, and obtains a kind of national circulation. It says little for the intellectual originality, or the talent for epigrammatic expression, among our public men, that, notwithstanding the advantage they have in this respect, so few phrases of any great significance come from them. If the nation were to depend upon them for its supply of those phrases which give a fillip to the intelligence and a piquancy to after-dinner talk, it would be rather ill-off. There are, of course, exceptions. Our Premier, as often as any man in high place, throws off an expression that flashes and twinkles for a moment in the British atmosphere; and, both in the Cabinet and on the Opposition benches, there are others whom Nature so far favours that sometimes they say a memorable thing. We do not know that Earl Russell has been particularly prolific in memorable phrases, considering his opportunities; but his "Rest and be thankful" of this autumn has been a great success. It has been the phrase of the season. Not to take account of references to it for several weeks past in newspaper-articles, it has made its appearance this very week as a text for comment in two such opposite quarters as Mr. Bright's speech at Rochdale and Earl Powis's address at his mansion in Berkeley Square on accepting the High-Stewardship of the University of Cambridge.

The origin of the phrase may not be generally known. The speech in which Earl Russell made use of it was one delivered during his recent autumn vacation in Scotland, when

he had been enjoying Highland scenery and probably climbing a few mountains. Now there are not a few of the fine but toilsome mountain-ascents in Scotland, at the top of which, when you are dead-tired, you come upon a stone-and-turf seat, or, it may be, a shieling, on which you read, painted in rude letters, the inscription "Rest and Be Thankful," telling you that other wayfarers have been there before you and have felt very much as you do. You obey the injunction, and sit down for a longer or shorter time to recover your breath and rest your limbs; and, if you are alone, and, as usually happens, the resting-place is so chosen that you can trace from it all the winding way by which you have come, and let your eye range over wondrous adjacent tracts of silent solitude lying beneath you, the chances are that you yield to the genius of the spot, and have a little fit of as wholesome philosophic meditation as you are ever likely to have. There are, we say, not a few of these spots in the parts of Scotland which tourists visit; and we have ourselves seen "Rest and Be Thankful" painted on stone-seats on eminences of such very easy access that it was plain they must have been very asthmatic persons indeed that had found occasion there either for the seat or for the sentiment. But the original "Rest and Be Thankful," from which all the others are mean plagiarisms, is at the head of Glencroe, through which you make your way on foot, or otherwise, going from the top of Loch Long to the top of Loch Fyne. That is the spot where the sighing soul of a whole district first vented itself in a pious topographical expression of its fatigue; that is the only "Rest and Be Thankful" to be found marked as such on the map of Great Britain. Our venerable Foreign Minister, there is little doubt, had been there this autumn; he had there probably had his brief fit of meditation, seeing in the difficult and rocky Glencroe beneath him-as thousands of other wayfarers have done-an image of his life up to that moment. But, though the actual Glencroe might be the same to all wayfarers, how different the spiritual Glencroe which an Eari Russell would see imaged in it from that which more private mortals could see! At all events, the lesson of the spot remained with him, associated with the name of the spot. occurred to him that there are moments of the collective life of nations, as well as in the lives of individuals, when they should rest satisfied with what they have attained and not seek for more; and it farther occurred to him that the present, at least in respect of home-politics, may be one of these moments in the collective life of Great Britain. And so he promulgated the lesson; and a phrase picked up at the head of Glencroe has gone through all the newspapers and been repeated in Rochdale and in Berkeley Square.

The poet Wordsworth was also once at the head of Glencroe. It was thirty-two years ago; and he also had his little meditation at "Rest and Be Thankful." It took the form of a sonnet, as follows:—

"REST AND BE THANKFUL."
AT THE HEAD OF GLENCROE.

Doubling and doubling with laborious walk, Who, that has gained at length the wished-for Height,

This brief, this simple, wayside Call can slight, And rests not thankful? Whether cheered by talk

With some loved friend, or by the unseen hawk Whistling to clouds and sky-born streams, that shine

At the sun's outbreak, as with light divine, Ere they descend to nourish root and stalk Of valley flowers. Nor, while the limbs repose, Will we forget that, as the fowl can keep Absolute stillness, poised aloft in air,

And fishes front, unmoved, the torrent's sweep,—So may the Soul, through powers that Faith bestows,

Win rest, and ease, and peace, with bliss that Angels share."

There is some difference, it will be perceived, between this spiritual rendering of the Glencroe inscription by the poet and that by our

Foreign Minister. Earl Russell's application of the text is that there may be times when farther striving may be useless or unadvisable, and when the best thing that people can do is to rest satisfied with what they have got, and be thankful that they have got so much. The poet Wordsworth's interpretation of the text, we venture to say, is both deeper in itself and more exact in its truth to the circumstances. To any one, after such a steep and wearying ascent as that of Glencroe, he first says, the invitation to rest and be thankful is exceedingly proper. Every one feels its propriety, and at once shows that he does so by accepting it. But any such notion as that of generalizing the words of the invitation into the maxim that man may fitly, at certain moments, cease striving, and make up his mind to remain where he is without farther effort, never occurred to the poet. It was evidently in his mind that you could not try to give the metaphor such a turn without being convicted of local absurdity. Head of Glencroe may be all very well; but you cannot remain at the Head of Glencroe for ever. It would not be comfortable to be there even overnight; and so, grateful though the repose may be, you must be up and away again-either back to Loch Long, or forward to Loch Fyne, or to the right or left, with the chance of being lost in the wilds. And so, even at that elevation, while resting his limbs, the poet collects images of activity and motion—the hawk in strong flight aloft, and the streams flashing in their descent to the valleys that require them. And then, through the occult suggestion of these pre-sent sights and sounds, his imagination leaps to the true and permanent spiritualization of the text impressed upon him by the localityto wit, that, though the soul of man may have its moments of blissful rest, it never can be the rest of ceasing or flagging effort, but only such rest as that of the bird poised high against the beating blast, or of the fish moveless, by power of fin, against the opposing

We cannot expect a Foreign Minister to be as deep or exact in his spiritualizations of natural phenomena or of way-side legends as a poet; and there is a certain rough applicability in Earl Russell's reading of the Glencroe legend which makes it far from discreditable to his powers of allegory. It is not to be supposed that the Earl, any more than the poet, was oblivious of the fact that, however grateful the rest at the Head of Glencroe might be, a human being could not remain there for ever, but must either go back to Loch Long or forward to Loch Fyne. He probably only meant that, as there are times in a journey when, owing to fatigue or to bad weather ahead, one may properly avail oneself of any convenient resting-place, and make the most of it, so is it in the intellectual lives of individuals and the political lives of nations. With his special application of the maxim to the domestic politics of Great Britain at the present time we have nothing to do. But we rather think that his Lordship may have done injustice to his own meaning, even in political matters, by adopting the Glencroe phrase without a due explanatory accompaniment. We think that, among existing popular and familiar phrases, he might have found one more expressive of his real meaning, though without the same picturesqueness. At least, in fancying to ourselves, as a possible result of the extraordinary present popularity attained by Earl Russell's phrase, the chance of its becoming the refrain of a popular air, and so passing from the organs of public opinion to the barrel-organs, we thought of "Wait for the Wagger" as of all existing circuits that Waggon" as, of all existing airs, that to which the words "Rest and be thankful" might most easily be set. The two phrases are metrically equivalent and all but identical in sentiment. Both imply a temporary cessation from locomotion, and an undisguised happiness in such cessation. In the second phrase the happiness amounts even to glee. But, curiously enough, in that second phrase, in which

the happiness in quiescence seems the greater, it does so purely on account of the triumphant expectation of the speedy re-sumption of the locomotion. Those who are shouting or singing the phrase are, indeed, resting on their journey—at the Head of Glencroe, or wherever else it may be—but they are doing so in the conviction that a conveyance is coming up which will give them all a lift onwards on their road at a faster rate than if they were to walk. Metrically interchangeable, therefore, as the phrases "Rest and be thankful" and "Wait for the Waggon" might be made by a little strain in the pronunciation, it is evident they could not, with true musical spirit, be set to the same tune. In the first there is the pious contentedness of a fatigued old gentleman; in the second, the buoyant alacrity of a marching Zouave. And hence the real quarrel with Earl Russell is that, whereas the existing phrase "Wait for the Waggon" would equally well have expressed any necessity that there is for resting, he preferred the newer phrase. But, as Earl Russell must certainly have contemplated the resumption of locomotion at some time or other, his preference for the phrase implying the stronger appreciation of rest for its own sake must certainly have proceeded from a difference between his views and those of his critics as to the probable time of the arrival of the waggon. Whereas he has no thought of its coming up for ever so long, they declare that they already hear it rumbling in the distance.

## CURRENT LITERATURE.

CHEZ VICTOR HUGO.

Chez Victor Hugo. Par un Passant. Avec 12 Eauxfortes par M. Maxime Lalanne. (Paris: Cadart et Luquet.)

THE three most famous modern writers of Great Britain, France and Germany have had very decided opinions about furniture. Sir Walter Scott was, to some considerable extent, a mediævalist; Goethe was a thorough modern; Victor Hugo likes everything that is picturesque and curious. Goethe said that "strange and antiquated furniture is a kind of masquerade which cannot be of any good in the long run, and which must exert a deteriorating influence on those who dwell in such places, for this sort of thing is in direct contradiction to the light of day in which we live,-it is the result of emptiness and hollowness of thought and sentiment, and it makes persons still more empty and hollow." Strong words these, but disputable. Goethe seems to have considered the love of picturesque old furniture merely in the light of an affectation—it is very remarkable that a mind in some respects sensitive to art should have entirely missed the æsthetic side of this question. It is not "a result of emptiness and hollowness of thought and sentiment" to orefer old things which are æsthetically delightful to modern things which no artistic mind can endure; it is a result, and an inevitable result, of the possession of artistic feeling and the wants which always accompany it-wants which will no more be stifled than any other imperious instinct. Upholsterers' mahogany, even when "highly polished," and cushioned with "real hair, well stuffed," is not enough to satisfy these wants. An artistic mind in a house full of nothing but vulgar modern comfort cannot find one single object on which it may dwell with pleasure. But these minds find inexhaustible interest in carved work, rich in invention; and, as such carved work is for the most part either old or in some antiquated fashion, they often expose themselves to the severe observations of critics who, like Goethe, cannot see the reason for such a taste, and therefore charitably attribute it to "emptiness and hollowness of mind and sentiment."

Many of us had heard rumours of the strange and wonderful way in which Victor Hugo had furnished his house in Guernsey. A French gentleman, coming straight from thence, a friend of the poet, called upon me one day last summer and described the house

to me. The reports of such travellers had in this way already given Hauteville House a considerable celebrity. The interest so excited has induced a firm in Paris, already known for its speciality as publishers of etchings, to issue a volume of description and illustration, of which Victor Hugo's house is the subject. The letter-press, by an anonymous writer, though occasionally vivid, and evidently written with hearty interest in the subject, is wanting in unity and art, being often diffuse where it should have been concise, and laconic where the fullest detail would have been acceptable. But the work is well worth the price charged for it (six francs for the ordinary copies, twenty francs for an édition de luxe), for there are twelve etchings by Lalanne, of which three or four are superlative masterpieces; and, if the letter-press is artless, it is interesting.

Many who see this book will say that this is a "folly" and "eccentricity" of Victor Hugo's; that this odd way of furnishing is fantastic, and not quite sane. You cannot, certainly, imagine any prosaic person, strong only in what is called "common sense," furnishing in any such way. The commonsense view of furniture is to take no artistic or intellectual interest in it, to have no affection for it, but to esteem it useful for bodily comfort by means of its softness and support, and available for the strengthening of social position by its public proclamation of wealth. To use furniture for these purposes is sense; to use it also for intellectual and æsthetic

purposes is eccentricity.

I do not pretend to say that Victor Hugo's way of furnishing seems to me quite the best. It is incongruous and fantastic, sadly wanting in unity, and often, I should infer, deficient in good taste. In these respects it accurately corresponds to his literary character; indeed, as Abbotsford, in its good and bad qualities, belongs to the modern antique fictitious world of Scott, so Hauteville House is a work akin to "Notre-Dame de Paris," "Les Légendes des Siècles, and "Les Misérables." But one may be permitted to express cordial adhesion to the main principle on which Victor Hugo has evidently acted. His great notion seems to be that furniture should be full of æsthetic and intellectual interest; and there he is quite right. He is a vigorous rebel against that tyrannical Commonplace which assumes the right to dictate all about our dwellings; and such rebels, with all their faults, deserve respect, though they seldom get it.

Hauteville House, outside, is merely a common English house, suggesting no other ideas than "convenient family residence with dining anddrawing-rooms, library, &c., &c.," and so much a year rent. The inside is more

interesting.

The entrance is mysteriously lighted by a window of small panes with the bull's-eyes in them (the thick bit left at the orifice of the blower's pipe). You find yourself surrounded by carved oak panelling, with a basrelief before you, carved, gilt, and painted, illustrating "Notre-Dame de Paris." A slender renaissance column supports the elaborate superstructure. In this panelling are inserted bronze medallions by David of Victor Hugo and his second daughter. There are inscriptions, of course. Three are quoted in the book:—1. "Aime et Crois;" 2. "Mange, marche, prie;" 3. "Ave."

In the billiard-room are some large family pictures, some maps, and ten drawings by Victor Hugo himself—views in Spain, Brittany, the Rhine, Jersey, and Guernsey. The frames are of deal, covered with designs of flowers and butterflies by Victor Hugo, and varnished. Some of the drawings are hung on a bit of carved oak, done by his own

The description of Victor Hugo's way of work as an artist is amusing. It seems there is generally some preliminary difficulty in finding ink and a pen, which does not say much for the poet's habits of order. When he begins to draw it is in detail.

He sits down, and, without previous sketch, without apparent intention, draws, with an extraordinary sureness of hand, not the general composition, but some particular detail of his landscape. He will begin his forest with the branch of a tree, his town with a gable, his gable with a weathercock, and, little by little, the whole composition will spring from the whiteness of the paper with the precision and clearness of a photographic negative that is subjected to the developing fluid. This done, the artist will ask for a cup of strong coffee and complete his landscape by pouring the coffee all over it. The result is a design, unexpected (I should think so), powerful, often strange, always original, which makes one dream of the etchings of Rembrandt and Piranése.

The "tapestry drawing-room" has a wonderful chimney-piece, rising like a cathedral of carved wood, which, rooting itself powerfully in the floor, springs at one bound up to the ceiling, whose tapestry it touches with its final traceries. This edifice is in a " goût délicieusement bâtard où le byzantin se mêle au rococo. Le couronnement, d'un effet tout imposant, rappelle les façades des maisons d'Anvers et de Bruges." Amongst other ornaments is the figure of a bishop with a gilded crozier, illustrated by the witty proverb, inscribed on two shields:-

> "Crosse de bois, évêque d'or; Crosse d'or, évêque de bois.'

On two volutes, imitating rolls of parchment, are engraved—on one side, the names of the men whom Victor Hugo regards as the chief poets of the human race—" Job, Isaïe, Homère, Eschyle, Lucrèce, Dante, Shakespeare, Molière;" and on the other, those of its chief benefactors—" Moïse, Socrate, Christ, Colomb, Luther, Washington." It is rather difficult, by the way, to ascertain very precisely what may be Victor Hugo's religious opinions. The insertion of Luther's name here proves, of course, that he is not a Roman Catholic, and the insertion of that of Christ between Socrates and Columbus seems to imply that he is not, in the English sense, a Christian. Probably his views, like those of most educated Frenchmen, do not differ widely from those of M. Renan. Victor Hugo seems to be a Deist, having at the same time a strong poetical and sentimental sympathy with the sacred legends of the Church of Rome. It is curious that on the same chimney-piece there is a statue of St. Paul, reading, with the inscription, "Le Livre," and that of a monk in ecstacy, his eyes raised, with the word "Ciel" under it.

The walls of the dining-room are covered

with Dutch porcelain of the seventeenth century, inserted in oak, and forming altogether "an immense mosaic." The chimneypiece is an edifice in white and blue tiles, with an enormous H in relief (as tall as a boy five years old) over the fire-place. Above the H is a statue of the Virgin carrying the child Jesus, who bears the globe on his little

hand. Under this are four verses by Victor Hugo:-

"Le peuple est petit, mais il sera grand Dans tes bras sacrés, ô mère féconde; O liberté sainte, au pas conquérant, Tu portes l'enfant qui porte le monde."

There are other inscriptions in the room: 1. " Dieu." 2. " L'Homme." 3. " Patrie." 4. "L'Exil, c'est la vie."

5. "Habitant des demeures périssables Pense à la demeure éternelle."

6. "Post prandium stabis Seu passus mille meabis
—Vale."

7. "Lever à six, coucher à dix, Dîner à six, souper à dix, Font vivre l'homme dix fois dix."

The writer of the book merely alludes to the most striking thing of all, of which no doubt many readers like myself had heard before. That is, the chained and empty chair wherein the ghosts of the dead Hugos sit at the table of their descendent. Whether this be really a superstition of the poet, or only the play of an intense imagination willing to lay traps for itself, as did Poe's youth in the "Raven," or whether it be a sad monument of later and no imaginary sorrow, I know not. It were easy to ridicule the indulgence of such a fancy, easy also to speak of it == 28 NOVEMBER, 1863. =

severely as morbid; but there is a fine thought in it. "The dead are gone from us," says the chained chair, "but we have not forgotten them; and, if they would come and sit at our table again, they would still be welcome." The chair has several inscriptions, of which one is quoted: "Les absents sont là."

Both the ceiling and walls of the Red drawing-room are covered with Indian damask, in which are inserted panels of tapestry, six feet by five, which used to adorn Queen Christine's bedroom at Fontainebleau. These tapestries are said to be extremely splendid, full of rich and various work, and glittering with gold, silver, and coloured glass, and enriched with silk and velvet. The chimney, as usual, is the focus of decoration. Six large statues, four of which are gilded negroes, stand on both sides of the fire; they seem (in the etching) in vigorous movement, as if in some rhythmic dance. The rest of the furniture is Renaissance, Louis XIII., Louis XIV., Chinese, and Japanese. There is a canopy over the fireplace in Chinese silk embossed with figures and birds. The Blue drawing-room is not described, but is said to be equally rich.

There is a state bedroom whose six windows, says the writer, shed their light amongst a forest of carved oak. There is a fine oak chimney-piece, reaching to the ceiling. There is a wonderful candelabrum for forty candles, with a pedestal, all designed by Victor Hugo, and crowned by an image modelled and carved by him. The door is splendidly illuminated. The bed is, of course, a carved construction, which, to the Frenchman who wrote the description, evidently seemed gigantic, though in many English houses there are much grander ones, if we may judge by the etching. There are two very fine carved pillars in the middle of the room, which, with the candelabrum and a carved screen, form the principal subjects of the illustration. There are inscriptions, of which two are worth quoting for their allusion to the poet's own political conduct :--

"Les Dieux sont aux vainqueurs: Caton est aux vaincus."

"L'esprit souffle où il veut ; L'honneur va où il doit.'

With all this splendour Victor Hugo's own private dens are simple enough, the infinite there being not infinity of man's invention but of nature, for his windows face the sea. The little place where he writes is comfortable and low, like a yacht's cabin, all hung with figured tapestry or damask, both walls and ceiling. His bedroom is a plain closet.

One cannot help regretting that this wealth of thought and invention should have been spent on such a wretched shell as Hauteville House. Victor Hugo's right place would be in a genuine old French château by the Rhône or the Loire. Truly this furnishing of Hauteville House is a putting of old wine

into a new bottle.

The author, in his description of the diningroom, has omitted one fact more precious as a proof of the poet's fundamentally excellent heart than all the inscriptions. There, once a week, meets a strange dinner-party, not of rich friends, but of the poorest children in Guernsey. Victor Hugo and his family stand round the table and wait upon those poor children as our servants wait on us. The dinner is good and abundant; after it the children play, and the old poet plays with them. Nay, more, he sold lately a collection of his drawings, and devoted the proceeds to clothe these poor children whom he feeds. Not long since I heard the daughter of an English clergyman say that Victor Hugo was a "bad man;" probably she had heard him called so on account of his theological or political views. There is much in his character that offends strict judges, much that looks like self-assertion and personal vanity, which the English will not endure, many French freedoms of expression which the modern English taste does not tolerate. But at the same time Victor Hugo has great and noble virtues-such strong virtues as are very rare in our age. He is a splendid example of fidelity to a political creed; he will not bow

down to armed and overwhelming success. He is tender, and kind, and charitable, and personally (all say who know him) the gentlest of companions. He has the courage to be himself—a rare courage. He is no hypocrite. As for this freak of furnishing Hauteville House so strangely, it is merely the irrepressible activity of an inventive imagination and richly cultivated mind. People who never read nor think do not care for inscriptions; people who cannot draw do not design carved furniture. I do not blame or despise them for these deficiencies. I merely say that they have no right to scorn such men as Victor Hugo because their intellectual and artistic activity runs even into their furniture, and spreads over the walls and ceilings of their houses with a great warm glow of imaginative and thoughtful life.

A few words, in conclusion, about the etchings. Maxime Lalanne is one of the five or six best etchers in France; and these etchings are the best things he has done yet. The artistic sense of mystery is so highly developed in him that it leads him occasionally, as it did Turner, into the domain of the unintelligible. These etchings are not to be exhausted at a glance; but, although they require study, they deserve and reward it. They err now and then by Rembrandtesque excess of blackness, losing themselves sometimes in the darks as photography does; but one or two experiments by arranging carved furniture in a dimly lighted room have convinced me that Lalanne is generally right, and draws what he sees, though no more than he sees, which is a virtue, not a vice. For example, in the etching entitled "Le Lookout," though the light in front is strong, the seat of the arm-chair and the carving of the table are invisible. Is this possible with so strong a light? Yes—it is even caused by the glare of the light in front of the spectator, which, by forcibly contracting the pupil of his eye, makes him, for the time, really blind to things in semi-obscurity. And, as the walls behind and the ceiling are hung with a dark light-absorbing material, the reflection is feeble. The only weak etchings in the book are the first and the last—"St. Peter Port" and "Victor Hugo in his Garden." For interiors Lalanne is an accomplished master; in landscape he is merely a student, though apparently a conscientious one.

It often happens that amateurs able to draw inhabit noble old houses, far richer in fine subjects than Hauteville House. They ought to illustrate such houses carefully and faithfully, such illustrations being always intensely interesting after the lapse of years. Let me recommend them to buy this book, and take these etchings as models. I know of none better. They are full of feeling, yet minutely faithful; rich in mystery, yet accurate in fact; and the execution is at once very delicate and very strong. P. G. H.

## QUEENS OF SONG.

Queens of Song. Being Memoirs of the most celebrated Female Vocalists who have appeared on the Lyric Stage, from the Earliest Days of Opera to the Present Time. To which is added a Chronological List of all the Operas that have been performed in Europe. By Ellen Creathorne Clayton. In Two Volumes. With Six Portraits: (Smith, Elder, & Co.)

'INO go to the Opera is to go to the devil; I but what matter? It is my destiny.' This was what a little French girl of thirteen said, a century ago, when her friends were going to send her among the élèves of the King's Theatre. Sophie Arnould—for she was the child-moralist - must have been about right in her guess at what the career of a singer generally led to under the patronage of Louis Quinze. Wilberforce might have quoted her saying with effect when preaching a like doctrine in his "Practical View of Christianity." The stories told us by old playgoers of the manners of the English stage a generation or two ago are quite sufficient to explain how decent people in those days could talk of the opera-house

as "Satan's throne." The saints of the "Clapham sect," with the scandals of the second circle of Drury Lane before their eyes, could scarcely be blamed if they condemned the whole theatrical world as irre-mediably corrupt. We have lived to witness a change which they never foresaw, a change which the comparison of the mere names heading the first and second volumes of this set of lives is enough to indicate. The earlier "Queens of Song" led for the most part wild adventurous lives, full of strange ups and downs, fierce struggles, unwomanly vagabondisms. The realm of vocal art in our latter days has been reigned over by women whose lives have been made great by all the virtues of simple womanhood, as well as by the genius which has carried mankind captive. In the last century it was really not an easy thing for an operatic heroine to lead the quiet life of an ordinarily good woman. Instance poor Anastasia Robinson, the unacknowledged wife of the half mad Earl of Peterborough, whose life was one continual struggle. How much sympathy she had from her own sex may be gathered from the sneering way in which the clever Lady Mary Montagu talks of the "nicety of Mrs. Robinson's virtue," as if it was a piece of presumption on the part of a singer to pretend to have a character. We find a happy contrast to this in coming to our own time. Women like Henrietta Sontag, Pauline Garcia, Clara Novello, and Jenny Lind reflect upon their art the pure light of their gracious lives. The story of careers like theirs will have less of the spice of frolic and adventure than the biographies of their elder sisters; but the lives of all ought to be worth writing. The sorrows and triumphs of genius, its sins and its heroisms, might give themes to the greatest pens: touched in slight style, as the authoress of these volumes has treated it, the subject still abounds with

Miss Clayton's book is a collection of short lives, simply and neatly written, of some forty of the greatest woman-singers the world has seen. She begins with Katherine Tofts and Margarita de l'Epine, the earliest female singers who appeared on the English stage, and ends with Louisa Pyne and Teresa Tiet-jens. So little musical history exists worthy of the name that any honest and intelligent attempt to cultivate this almost barren field is to be welcomed with indulgence. A musical historian works under great disadvantages. His sources of information are obscure, fragmentary, and dubious; and he has to describe things which are really indescribable in words -the characteristics of particular singers and the effect of particular sorts of music. Considering these and other difficulties, Miss Clayton has executed her task reasonably well. She writes gracefully and without effort, and contrives to give the reade tolerably distinct portraiture of each of the subjects of her biographies. One might expect at first sight some monotony in the presentment of a set of lives so similar in their main features. Details of early precocity, popular triumphs, and vast pecuniary rewards are common to most; but in other respects the characters and fates of these royal songstresses have been different enough. Reviewing such a catena of remarkable artists, one is reminded how many qualities, physical, mental, moral, contribute to the making of the complete artist; how fewvery few-have all or even the most important of these in a high degree. It is from these deficiencies-various as they are-that come the diversities in artistic character which save us from a monotony of excellence. So many-sided a thing is music that the talents of two artists may scarcely have a single characteristic in common, and yet both may be equally great. Grassini, with her single octave of deep contralto notes and her simple plaintive manner, bewitched her audience as completely as Mrs. Billington, with her soprano reaching to A in altissimo, and her limitless brilliancy of vocalization. When they sang together no one could say which was the greater of the two.

It would be difficult to say which of the lives in these volumes are the most interesting. The earlier biographies are fullest of anecdote and incident; the later ones give, perhaps, the best portraitures of individual talent. The lives of Madame Mara, Mrs. Crouch, Lavinia Fenton, and Sophie Arnould are full of singular turns of fortune. The last two scarcely deserve the title of "Queens of Song," but Sophie's wit and Lavinia's success excuse their introduction into the roll of honour. If the little Frenchwoman's throat had been capable of such brilliant things as her tongue, she would have been one of the first of singers. There is little enough recorded of her songs, bu ther bons mots still survived to shake the sides of men.

Hearing one day that a capuchin monk had been devoured by wolves, "Poor beasts," said Sophie, compassionately, "hunger must be a dreadful thing!"

This is only to be equalled by the delightful morsel of courtier's wit uttered by the Abbé Galiani at a juncture when she was under the displeasure of the king, though singing as well as ever. When asked his opinion of her performance, he said, with a shrug of the shoulders, "It is the finest asthma I ever heard!" Madame Mara's life is quite a little romance, and her sayings about music are not a little instructive.

If any one praised the rapid articulation of a singer, Mara would significantly demand, "Can she sing six plain notes?"

Her apology for her alleged want of action in passionate parts was spirited:-

"What!" she would exclaim, "am I to sing with my hands and legs? I am a singer: what I cannot do with my voice I will not do

As a vocalist pure and simple, probably Catalani was the greatest singer that ever lived. There are endless tales of her miraculous feats of voice-gymnastics. But Miss Clayton's story of her possessing a particular note, higher than any on the pianoforte, "designated by English amateurs 'double falsetto," must surely be mythical. As to her mental cultivation, it was on a par with her husband's knowledge of music. The famous story of her entertaining Goethe with an account of her admiration for his "capital farce" of Werter (mistaking some stupid travesty for the original) is just matched by that of her husband's having six inches taken off the legs of her piano because she had complained of its being too

To come down to more modern celebrities, here is an account of the first appearance of the greatest contemporary tenor:-

In 1838, M. Duponchel, the director of the Opera, was looking for a tenor to replace Duprez, and at last his eager eyes lighted upon a handsome young refugee officer of two-and-twenty, named Candia. M. Candia, who was the son of a Piedmontese general, and had been, besides, an officer in the Piedmontese guard, had for some time been the cynosure of attention in certain Parisian circles. As he moved in aristocratic society, his expenses were necessarily heavy; and he dared not ask his father for pecuniary assistance, the old gentleman being a severe disciplinarian, and very angry with his son. M. Candia had been often told that he had a hundred thousand francs of income in his throat, and Duponchel volunteered to give him fifteen hundred francs a month to begin with, if he would appear at the Opera. He hesitated, on account of his aristocratic birth and his patrician father, and could not make up his mind to sign the name of Candia to a theatrical contract; but, dining one day at the house of the Countess de Merlin with the Prince Belgioso, M. Duponchel, and many others, M. Candia was induced to accept the proposal of M. Duponchel, and he compromised with his family pride by signing his Christian name only-that of Mario.

We might quote more pleasant bits from Miss Clayton's lives, but space forbids. The goodness of the half-dozen engraved portraits is a thing to be mentioned: so is also a useful appendage to the book in the shape of a

operas performed in Europe. We have noted a few omissions in this list, as we have also some inaccuracies of fact in the memoirs, but it is not worth while to dwell upon these. The style of the book throughout bears evidence that in general it has been compiled with care and industry.

## EXPLORATIONS IN LABRADOR.

Explorations in the Interior of the Labrador Peninsula, the Country of the Montagnais and Nasquapee Indians. By Henry Youl Hind, M.A. In Two Volumes. (Longman & Co.)

T is recorded that, in the year 1785, and again in 1814, there occurred in British North America certain phenomena popularly known as "the dark days of Canada," when daylight became more or less obscured, the candles had to be lit, and showers of ashes descended to such an extent that "the water looked as black as ink." The learned have made these phenomena subject of speculation-some thinking them the result of volcanic activity, others referring them, probably more correctly, to conflagrations of extensive forest and moss tracts of the Labrador Peninsula. Native traditions speak of great bush-fires as having often occurred in that country, and recent explorations tend to confirm them. Where once stood noble forests, there are encountered at the present day only charred stumps, and where at one time a thick layer of moss and lichens covered the rocky ground nothing but the bare rocks, often erratic blocks of enormous dimensions, are now to be seen. The conflagrations have become much more frequent since the introduction of fire-arms, steel and flint and matches amongst the Indian population; and they threaten to make the whole of Labrador at no distant time more or less a desert. The astonishing speed with which fire runs through the moss is well described by Mr. Davies in his "Notes on Esquimaux Bay." It appears that, in his ascent of the Grand River in Hamilton Bay, he had a quantity of moss collected on the top of a hill about a mile from his encampment, in order to inform the Indians of his approach. About half-an-hour afterwards, whilst sitting at the door of his tent, he was startled by "a noise like thunder;" and, before he had time to spring to his feet, the frantic shouts of his men warned him of the approaching danger. With the utmost difficulty he contrived to launch his canoe and throw the baggage into it; and, had the encampment not been in a spot of green wood, all speed would have been fruitless. So rapidly did the flames advance, that one of the men, who had wandered a little way from the encampment, could scarcely save himself at the top of his speed. Before the party had pushed a quarter of a mile across the river the whole mountain was in a blaze. The fire lasted for more than three weeks, and completely destroyed an area several hundred square miles in extent. Such being the nature of the conflagrations, there is no valid reason why they should not spread from Hudson's Bay to the Gulf of St. Lawrence in a few days, as far as the combustible condition of the fuel is concerned. In Labrador it would be impossible to escape by speed from an approaching sheet of flame. The only plan is to scrape the moss from a few square yards, which may be done with the utmost ease, as it adheres to the rock or soil very loosely, and then to lie down upon the bare ground.

The extent and frequent occurrence of these conflagrations have been felt by none more keenly than the tribes of nomadic Indians who inhabit the interior of Labrador. They have almost completely destroyed, or, at all events, fearfully reduced the wild animals upon which they depended for their food and clothing. Within the last few years whole encampments have been starved to death, as might be inferred from the circumstances we have described. The fact was stated by a Mr. Kennedy; and, when the affairs of the Hudson Bay Company were professedly complete chronological list of all investigated in 1857 by a select committee of

the House of Commons, Mr. Roebuck plainly asked Sir George Simpson, the Governor of the Company, whether, during his thirtyseven years' experience in that territory, he had ever heard of any Indians freezing or starving to death; but Sir George declared that he never had heard of such a thing, except in Mr. Kennedy's letter. Nevertheless, it is now proved beyond doubt, by evidence collected by the Canadian government, that Mr. Kennedy rather under-stated than overstated the case, and that the Indians are as badly off as they can possibly be. "Famine, with all its horrors," writes Mr. Hind, "is now common enough in many parts of the Labrador Peninsula. Not a year passes but some fall victims to it."

In 1859 Père Arnaud met six families who had descended the Pentecost River near Point des Monts, two of whom had suffered terribly from hunger, being the picture of misery when they reached the coast. One man and a child had fallen victims to famine, and the others only escaped by the energy of the mother and her daughter pushing their way through the woods by day and by night in search of another encampment of Indians. They were nearly exhausted when they were seen at the end of a large lake by some hunters, who at first took them for bear or caribou, and hastened towards them, in expectation of a successful hunt. When they reached the poor creatures, they found them scarcely able to speak. Having given them a little food, and remained with them until they had regained sufficient strength to walk, they turned their steps towards the deserted lodge. Arriving there, they found one Indian and a child already dead, another Indian so weak that he had not strength to move. In four or five days they all returned together, bringing the victims of hunger along with them for burial on the coast.

The following touching appeal to the Canadian government, interpreted literally, was two years ago written by the Montagnais Indians of the Moisie River:

Can our words meet your views, we Indians? can our words enter into your hearts, you that govern, we who live here, we who are born here, and consider ourselves possessors of the soil, by the will of the Great Creator of the Universe? Our lands and country now ruined, we can no more find our living; our rivers taken from us, and only used by strangers. Through your will, we can only now look on the waters of the rivers passing, without permission to catch a fish, we poor Indians. And now what are your intentions towards us? You have, no doubt, all the means to live, though not we; would you consider our poverty, and take compassion upon us? We pray you to send us some help; our poverty does not arise from laziness and want of energy, but from being unable any more to procure for ourselves and families food; and we are all of one mind, that, since our lands and rivers afford us no more the means to live, you who govern should take our present distress into your consideration without loss of time, and for which we will most gratefully ever pray.

It seems cruel for the Canadian government to lease the salmon rivers flowing into the estuary and Gulf of St. Lawrence, and to forbid by law the Indians who were born on the soil from taking fish for their daily food from rivers which are leased to white men; yet such is the almost incredible thoughtlessness of the natives, and so great the number of fish they destroy wantonly or for barter at the traders' stores, that in a few years the best salmon rivers would be ruined by them. The most natural way would be to allow the Indians to go on fishing, as in days of yore, before any "pale face" intruded upon their shores. But where is right when might has the upper hand? One must die-either the Indian or the salmon; and, if the Delphinian oracle could be consulted in this case, her answer would probably be, "Let the most precious be preserved." The most precious would doubtless be interpreted by the Indian to mean himself, and by the white man the salmon.

The Indians, finding life in the interior precarious, and starvation a calamity of frequent occurrence, flock in great numbers to the coast, where they subsist upon sea-fish and seal. The damp, foggy climate of the coast is, however, but ill adapted to their

constitution, and most of them die soon after their arrival, some in a few months, some in a year or thereabouts. Their migration seems also much influenced by their desire to become Christians. The Roman Catholic religion has taken a strong hold upon them, and the most ardent wish of the tribes in the interior is to see the priest.

The Indian missionary remains with his erratic flock, at the different stations where they meet him on the coast of Labrador, for a period varying from eight to twelve days. The religious ceremonies of the Roman Catholic Church are strictly practised during that period; confessions are made, marriages celebrated, burial services performed, and baptisms administered, until the missionary starts for the next station, one or two hundred miles away; and the Indians disperse, to meet again, in the same way and at the same time, in the following year. The description of a station given by Père Babel expresses the opinion which the Catholic missionaries have formed of the Montagnais. It differs in no respect from what we saw at Seven Islands, where Père Arnaud officiated. "This last spring (1854) I started for these missions in a schooner bound for Labrador, and, after fourteen days of monotonous navigation, I reached the port of Itamameou (east of Natashquan). . . . I was truly happy to find myself among my Indians again; they are so good, so ingenuous, so submissive. The missionary is truly amidst them like a father amidst his children. These are the poor people who fear and detest sin. If you only knew how bitterly they deplore the errors of their past life; how their perseverance in well-doing and the harmony of their conduct are capable of putting to the blush many Christians far more privileged than they by the abundance of the help which they receive!"

Mr. Hind, the author of the two volumes at the head of our notice, fills the chair of Chemistry and Geology at Toronto University, Canada, and has already been before the public as the historian of the Canadian Red River Exploring Expedition of 1857, and the Assiniboine and Skatchewan Exploring Expedition of 1858. His knowledge of the Montagnais and Nasquapee Indians of Labrador was principally gained in the summer of 1861, when, during the latter part of June and the first half of July, he ascended and descended, in frail birch-bark canoes, the turbulent Moisie, a river which takes its rise on the Labrador table-land and empties itself into the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The Moisie is called by the Indians Mistashipu, which signifies the same as Missi-sippi, the great river, and shows, as does the name Skatchewan (rapids), that the Montagnais' dialect of Labrador is but a branch of a language spoken at the foot of the Rocky Mountains, 3000 miles distant. The Moisie is not navigable, having, in 110 miles from the coast, a fall of 2214 feet, and consequently numerous rapids and portages. The former may be passed by great skill and good paddling in the canoes; but the latter are so high that it is necessary to land and carry canoes and baggage beyond these gigantic waterfalls, often through drear and pathless forests. The obstacles resulting from the nature of this rough journey, conversations with the Indians, fights with the mosquitoes, descriptions of the wild scenery and the resources of the country, are the principal materials out of which the first volume has been constructed. Mr. Hind and his party succeeded in tracing the Moisie to its cradle, and in laying it down in our maps. The second volume is chiefly taken up with a description of the coast and the fishery question, into the merits and demerits of which we have, however, no wish to enter. Suffice it to say, that those who wish for information on this point will find in Mr. Hind's volumes an able digest of the principal facts, and learn something of the grievances under which the colonists fancy they labour in consequence of recent imperial legislation.

Mr. Hind's two volumes, though we should have preferred them in a more condensed form, may be recommended to public attention as full of sound knowledge, derived from the best published sources, and from personal observation, by an author who has had some experience in bush life. THE HISTORY OF THE BRITISH NAVY.

The History of the British Navy, from the
Earliest Period to the Present Time. By C. D.
Yonge. In Two Volumes. (Bentley.)

Nautical Dictionary. Defining the Technical Language relative to the Building and Equipment of Sailing Vessels and Steamers, Seamanship, Navigation, Nautical Astronomy, Naval Gunnery, Maritime Law and Commerce, General and Particular Average, and Marine Insurance, and other Terms relating to Maritime Affairs. With an Appendix containing the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, and a Vocabulary of French Terms. By Arthur Young, assisted in the Nautical Department by James Brisbane. Second Edition, illustrated with Plates and Numerous Woodcuts. (Longman & Co.)

R. YOUNG'S. "Nautical Dictionary" is M all that its comprehensive title promises. The first edition, published seventeen years ago, and long since out of print, was a careful putting together of the notes made for his own guidance by the author during a long experience as a naval average adjuster, and therefore referred almost exclusively to merchant shipping. This new edition contains all that need be said about steamvessels and ships of war, besides giving a great deal of fresh information on matters connected with the original subject of the work; and the whole is plentifully illustrated with appropriate woodcuts and plates, making clear everything that is left doubtful by the verbal descriptions. No better book could be turned to for information as to the present condition of English shipping in all

its branches. Knowledge as to the way in which English shipping has reached its present condition can hardly elsewhere be obtained in so readable a form as in the other work whose title is quoted above. Mr. Yonge's "History of the British Navy" is in some sort a continuation of Sir Nicholas Harris Nicolas's "History of the Royal Navy," of which the only two volumes written, bringing down the narrative to the year 1422, were issued in 1847. The new book, however, is in nearly every respect different from its forerunner. Sir Harris Nicolas worked with such an antiquarian love of his subject, and so thoroughly exhausted every part of it, that his work, had it ever been brought down to the point intended, would have filled something like a score of volumes. Mr. Yonge, on the other hand, finds seventeen pages more than enough for a recapitulation of the story on which his predecessor spent more than a thousand, and passes over mediæval subjects, on which many would have hundreds of speculations to offer, with the general remark that "the ships of modern times are so entirely different from those then in use, and consequently the whole system of naval tactics (if, indeed, anything deserving of the name of a system then existed at all) has also been so completely remodelled, that no instruction could be derived from such details, even were we able to arrive at them with anything like accuracy." Even of the eventful naval history of Tudor and Stuart times he says but little; and his narrative only becomes full and complete when he comes to speak of our wars with the French, begun in consequence of the support given by them to the Pretender's cause in 1744, and continued with occasional pauses down to 1814. The account of those wars, interesting and accurate, fills 800 out of the 1500 pages that make up the book; and this is followed by successive narratives of the war with America in 1812-1814, of the long series of Arctic and Antarctic voyages ending with the discovery of Sir John Franklin's fate, of our efforts to suppress the slave trade, and of our recent wars with Russia and China. Such a history of a century of naval fighting and naval enterprise must interest every one; and in the writing of it Mr. Yonge has had special advantages. The Admiralty Board has opened to him its treasury of despatches and documents prior to the year 1841; and, in describing occurrences before and after that date, he has been greatly aided by the private

letters and journals of many of the leading men engaged in them.

The book is a history of events rather than of causes. To some students of the past and present it may seem more important to seek in the early disposition of Englishmen to engage in naval enterprise, and in the bold adventures upon the sea, for which in all times they have been famous, illustration of the way in which our little England has won its way to the foremost rank as a great and free nation; and something of the sort will probably be attempted before long. But no one can complain of Mr. Yonge for having preferred the other, and, in the judgment of many, the more attractive half of the subject. In his two volumes he is able to tell over again some of the most delightful episodes in English history; and, when we read them in a separate narrative, apart from the other elements of our national progress, the story has a new and special interest. We are able to study the character of naval warfare in all its bearings, and to see what amount of good may be done by it for the peace of the world. There are no brighter pages in the history, often so very dark, of human strife, than those detailing the seafights of sixty and seventy years ago; and perhaps the brightest page of all is that in which we read of the closing work of Nelson, ended, as Mr. Yonge says, "by the most glorious death ever yet vouchsafed to a human being.

It is not only that in him great political sagacity was united with the most perfect military genius, to which were added the most daring courage and the most ready and unfailing presence of mind; nor that with these qualities which compel our admiration were beautifully blended those softer attributes that attract affection, an almost feminine gentleness of disposition, ever sympathising and ever watchful kindness and humanity, a generosity of feeling which showed itself in acts as well as in words towards enemies as towards friends; but that these admirable talents and endowments were at all times under the guidance of the most eminent public virtue, of the most unsullied honour, the most absolute unselfishness, the purest patriotism, the most sublime devotion to the cause of his king and country, without the most transitory alloy of a single petty, or interested, or unworthy feeling. It may perhaps be questionable whether, of the great generals whose triumphs at the head of armies have filled the world with their renown, any has been endowed with a higher genius for war. Naval warfare, waged as it is on one universal plain, the sea, presenting neither cities to be taken, nor rivers to be crossed, nor mountains to be traversed, is, no doubt, simpler than warfare by land, which in a great degree turns on the address with which such obstacles are eluded, overcome, or at times even converted to one's own advantage. But the more the absence of all distinctive features from the scene of warlike operations tends to place hostile commanders on a level, the more marvellous is that genius which, in spite of the apparent equality to which such circumstances seem to reduce all combatants, contrived to show so marked a superiority over every other commander in every country who has at any time led a fleet into battle. In the history of nations, Nelson alone stands at the head of his profession without

There have been few men, if any, as brave and skilful in naval warfare as Nelson; but England has a long list of noble heroes to be proud of. The many great men who spent the best parts of their lives in the quest, profitless in all save its development of manly courage, of a north-west passage to India deserve a volume, or a string of volumes, to themselves. Mr. Yonge, in fair proportion to the rest of his subject, assigns to them three interesting chapters. In three others he sketches the less honourable course of our three successive wars with China, bringing down the story to the peace effected last year. In these recent wars there has been no lack of administrative skill, and the naval part has, in the main, been managed better than the military; but, after reading Mr. Yonge's narrative, the question arises perforce whether it is not better even to fight with the elements and perish as dismally as did Franklin and his comrades, than to wage

war with people unable to withstand the force of our scientific modes of fighting, and equally unable to follow the European fashion of observing treaties and keeping faith with foreigners. There is little glory in our contests with the races of China or Japan; and, if no worthier work awaits our navy, one is disposed to regret that so much labour should be spent in perfecting its destructive powers.

## AN AMERICAN "WOMAN'S RIGHTS" STORY.

Hannah Thurston. A Story of American Life. By Bayard Taylor, Author of "Views Afoot," &c., &c. (Sampson Low, Son, & Co.)

"THE Princess" again, Mr. Tennyson; but this time as a quaker girl—nay, woman of thirty—in the quiet town of Ptolemy in the Federal States, where, in the great united sewing union, mousseline-delaine frocks are made for Telugu children, the repairs of the Cimmerian church are subscribed for, and The Slavery Annihilator pen-wiper manufactured; and where Bute Wilson says of his presumed tailor-rival, "Darn that blue-gilled baboon! I believe his liver's whiter than the milt of a herrin', an' if you'd cut his yaller skin, he'd bleed whey, 'stid o' blood." This being the case, English people should read "Hannah Thurston," if only for the wholly different set of characters and ideas they are taken into by the book. We may have middle-aged ladies in England who, when they look at the Madonna di San Sisto, say of the child, "Why it looks just like my little Addy," and who mistake Francesca and her lover for Jephthah and his daughter; but we can hardly match the lecturing tailor proposing to the quaker lady—our Princess too—and offering to tell her "Something I feel now, deep in my buzzum. Shall I unveil it to your gaze?" And, though we do hear of ladies insisting on a bachelor's giving a party in England, yet we have never found a set of people going to a poor clerk's room at a grocer's, dancing in the store-room (lighted with candles in bottles and turnips), sitting on barrels, their only music a fiddle, and eating supper out of a basket. We could match the bright Mrs. Waldo, putting everybody straight and making everybody happy; but Bute and the "gassy old fellow" who lectures, the heroine's speech, and the odd, long discussions of women's rights, and other social theories, we could not pair. As a story, the book is not well written; there is little or no plot, and the action hangs. As a series of scenes, too, we cannot give the work very high praise: there is no George Eliot hand in outline or colour; but the scenes are so different from those of our own life that they will well bear perusal by all who have a few hours to spare. The heroine, Hannah Thurston, is a strong advocate of woman's rights. She has grown up in quiet, seeing no very able or noble men; has adopted her theory, and considers her lot settled in life. But across her path comes Maxwell Woodbury, with large experience of men and women, cultivated, generous, and true, but seemingly cool and unimpassioned, and not receptive of isms. The two meet, and misunderstand each other at first, but gradually melt into man and wife, Hannah being helped by a friend, Mrs. Blake, who thus lays down the law:-

"You should be very careful not to overestimate the capacity of our sex by your own, as an individual woman. You may be capable under certain conditions—of performing any of the special intellectual employments of Man, but to do so you must sacrifice your destiny as a woman—you must seal up the wells from which a woman draws her purest happiness."
"Why?"

"Ah, my dear," said Mrs. Blake, tenderly, "if your hair were as grey as mine, and you had two such creatures about you as Josey and George yonder, you would not ask. There are times when a woman has no independent life of her own—when her judgment is wavering and obscured—when her impulses are beyond her control. The business of the world must go on in its fixed order, whether she has her share in it or not. Congresses cannot be adjourned nor trials post-

poned, nor suffering patients neglected, to await her necessities. The prime of a man's activity is the period of her subjection. She must then begin her political career in the decline of her faculties, when she will never be able to compete successfully with man, in any occupation which he has followed from youth."

Hannah Thurston reflected a moment before the spoke again, and her tone was less earnest and

confident than usual:

"The statesmen and jurists, the clergymen, physicians, and men of science," she said, "comprise but a small number of the men. Could not our sex spare an equal number? Would not some of us sacrifice a part of our lives, if it were necessary?"

"And lose the peace and repose of domestic life, which consoles and supports the public life of man!" exclaimed Mrs. Blake. "It is not in his nature to make this sacrifice—still less is it in ours. You do not think what you are saying. . . There is no true woman but longs, in her secret soul, for a man's breast to lay her head on, a man's eyes to give her the one look which he gives to nobody else in the world!"

The gradual breaking down of Hannah's self-assertion, and the delicate respect of her husband for her opinions, and his non-interference with her after their marriage, are very well managed; till at last the day arrives when the wife delightingly lets "this proud watchword rest of Equal;" and, one in heart and purpose, she lives with her love one noble life. The minor characters of the book are very fairly sketched, Friend Thurston, Hannah's mother, being perhaps the best.—Are all mediums such scamps as Mr. Dyce though?—But Bute Wilson and his little sempstress will be thought the best fun. Here is the big, stupid man trying to damage his rival in the fair one's esteem.

"Woman has sich queer notions. Now, there's that Seth Wattles that you think such a beauty."

"But Wilson! You know I don't think any such thing! It's Seth's mind that I admire. There's such a thing as moral and intellectual

beauty; but that you don't understand."

"No, hang it! nor don't want to, if he's got it! I believe in a man's doin' what he purtends to do, keepin' his mind on his work, whatever it is. If Seth Wattles lays out to be a tailor, let him be one; if he wants to be a moral and intellectual beauty, he may try that, for all I keer—but he can't do both to once't. I wish he'd make better trousers, or give up his business."

## A CRUISE OF H.M.S. FAWN.

Notes of a Cruise in H.M.S. Fawn in the Western Pacific in the Year 1862. By T. H. Hood. (Edinburgh: Edmonston and Douglas.)

M.S. Fawn, under the command of 11. Captain Cator, left Sydney harbour on the 7th of May, 1862, and returned to it on the 6th of September of the and it is the history of the vessel during these four months that Mr. Hood has endeavoured to describe in the well got-up volume before us. We are taken first to New Zealand, where we are glad to find that a good military road is now being pushed across the island, and a chain of forts established. When they are finished, the conciliatory policy of Sir George Grey towards the natives may "be acknowledged to have been a wise and humane one." The next place called at was Niue, or Savage Island, where an English missionary is settled, and the natives salute you with, "You fliend Engleez: give rope, all right," when they wish to come on board, attired in fringed mats, all dripping, and looking like veritable sons of Neptune. Nor is their behaviour bad. The only faux pas observed was a man's having obtained a marine's old scarlet jacket in exchange for his goods, struggled it into a pair of breeches, and come ignominiously upon his back on the quarter-deck.

The ship's head was next turned towards the Samoan, or Navigation Islands, the latter name being given on account of the number of canoes seen about the group, though it would have been better applied to the Tongan Archipelago, the inhabitants of which are the real navigators of the South Sea. The Samoan

Islands are a congregation of petty republics, quite independent of each other, and acknowledging no central government, a state of things highly inconvenient to European traders. Mr. W. Pritchard, when he filled the office of British Consul there, endeavoured to get the various communities to accept a code of very simple laws; but the task was not completed when he was removed to the Fiji Islands, and no progress seems to have been made in that direction since his departure. The natives suffer as much and even more by this state of affairs than the Europeans, as wars which decimate the population are quite the normal condition of the country. This is the more to be regretted, as "in no part of the world could so many stalwart, handsome men be found amongst a similar number of people."

In the last engagement, a few weeks, ago, having obtained a victory, and killed a number of the adverse tribe, it is to be expected they will be satisfied with the atonement now obtained for the death of the man whose murder was the original cause of the hostilities. This is the more likely to be the case, as war has not the same attraction, now that fire-arms have been introduced, as in the old days, when the use of the spear and clubs gave more opportunity for the display of personal prowess in hand-to-hand encounters. Were it not for this, I believe all the efforts of the missionaries would avail little in putting a stop to this love of indulging, like the Highlanders of former days, in the excitement and glory of war, which provided them with subjects for song and story, and enabled the conquering chieftain to claim more than the regard given to the magistrate and lawgiver of peaceful times. And one can scarcely feel surprised at it, on seeing one of these splendidlooking men arrayed in the barbaric splendour of their war-costumes.

The women are treated well, as they are amongst all the light-coloured Polynesians, and quite exempt from any hard work, which undoubtedly accounts to a considerable extent for the superiority in physical development the Samoans enjoy over the dark-coloured races of the Pacific, who subject their women to all sorts of drudgery for which nature does not seem to have intended them. The love of these islanders for their children is carried to such an extent that they gratify them in everything, and mothers will nurse them till

they are often well-grown. The Fawn seems to have met, like all visitors to these islands, with a hospitable reception; and the officers were present at the marriage of the daughter of an Englishman with a native chief, the father arguing that the natives are much superior to the Europeans found in these parts, and that, if a girl has to marry and settle in Samoa, she would probably be much happier with a native than with one of her own countrymen. The marriage was performed according to Christian rites; for a great number of the Samoans are now converted, at least nominally, to our religion; and all would probably soon follow if the different sects who have established themselves in the islands would leave off quarrelling and abusing each other, or if each sect would confine itself to particular localities, and not endeavour to encroach upon the field which any other has marked out for its activity.

From Samoa the vessel went to Uvea, or Wallis Island, where a fine of £500 had been imposed on the Queen for a loss suffered by an Englishman. The author here observed large slabs of a coarse red porphyry, which were brought from an island in the lagoon, and seem to be the rock from which large blocks were formerly taken in canoes to Tongataboo, where cromlechs are still to be

found.

This circumstance renders more accountable the existence of the ruins of ancient buildings and circles of stones composed of materials not obtained except from distant localities, as those of Kunaie or Strong's Island, at Paasden, Easter Island, Waiahu, &c. Now all tradition of their origin is lost, and the natives regard them as the work of their godlike ancestors, who fished up the very islands themselves from the depths of the ocean. Amongst the most singular of these remains may be mentioned those of Assension or

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Ponapi, an island in lat. 7° north, and long. 157° 50' east. They are situated upon low land, extending out upon the flats which surround the island. A writer in the Honolulu paper, the Rev. C. W. Clark, who visited them in 1852, says:— "We approached the ruins from the inland side by crossing a creek or canal, from twenty to thirty feet wide, walled on both sides, and nearly dry at low tide. This led to the outer entrance of the ruin or fortification, which was through a large open gateway. On inspection, we found these ruins to consist of two quadrangular walls, one within the other; the length and breadth of the outer quadrangle, by rough measurement, was 236 feet by 162 feet, and the wall from six to ten feet thick, and in some places twenty-five feet high on the outside. This wall seemed entire in some places, and in others broken and overgrown with vines and trees. Proceeding a few paces from the outer wall, we came to the entrance of the inner enclosure, facing the entrance to the outer. In front of the inner is a raised platform, ten to twelve feet wide; the inner wall is about fourteen feet high where it was not broken down, and six feet thick; the top rows of basaltic prisms, of which the wall is built, projected over about two feet on the outside, apparently to prevent the walls from being scaled. The inner enclosure is ninety-five feet by seventy-five. In the centre, a little raised above the surrounding ground, is a large vault. The ancient entrance to it was thoroughly closed by basaltic prisms, but I entered through a crevice in the top. The vault inside is fifteen feet by ten, and seven by eight feet in depth. The bottom is uneven, having been dug up apparently by former visitors in search of treasure or curiosities. The top of the vault is covered with immense basaltic columns, extending the whole length, and measuring seventeen feet in length. On the top, a large bread-fruit tree was growing, whose roots extended down through the vault into the ground below."

About Fiji, which the Fawn only sighted, Mr. Hood has some very improbable secondhand stories; and he also endorses the equally apocryphal ones of English traders, who, when no longer requiring the natives of one island to cut sandal-wood, barter them for pigs to their cannibal enemies—the cannibals immediately preparing "the ovens in sight of the victims and the inhuman monsters who traded in their blood."

After visiting Kunaie, or the Isle of Pines, with its noble groves of Araucarias, looking like so many pillars of basalt, and New Caledonia, the recently-established French colony, the Fawn made the best of her way to Norfolk Island, now the abode of the Pitcairn islanders. In the appendix the author gives certain instructions addressed to the chief magistrate of Norfolk Island by Sir William Denison when Governor-General of Australia, and after he had paid a visit to the island. The document affords a much better insight into the real state of the Pitcairn islanders than any of the numerous accounts which have been published. It is evident that the descendants of the Bounty mutineers are not a very active or energetic race.

"The present state of matters on Norfolk Island," says Sir William, "is, I believe, altogether incompatible with its prosperity, or with the comfort and happiness of the people. You appear to be living, not on the produce of your own labour, but upon your capital, or rather upon that capital which was handed over to you by the Government for the purpose of being employed reproductively for your own benefit and that of your posterity. The scabby state of the sheep, and the impossibility of dressing them properly, may be a sufficient reason for killing them off gradually; but, unless steps are soon taken to intro-duce more of this stock, and for allowing the cattle to increase, the supply of animal food will soon fall short of the wants of the people. The habit which you are acquiring of depending for a large portion of your food upon a source which is entirely independent of any exertion of your own, must manifestly lead to the introduction of improvident and idle habits, which cannot be too carefully guarded against. The first thing, therefore, to be done, is to make a positive and marked distinction between public and private property; to give to each head of a family an absolute right of property in a certain amount of land, and to make him a present of a sufficient number of cattle, &c., to enable him to cultivate that land with advantage, supposing him to exercise the ordinary amount of forethought and industry. When this has been done, an end should be put

at once and for ever to any gratuitous distribu-tions of food, clothing, &c., from public funds, except perhaps to those who, from age, infirmity, and mental or bodily incapacity, are unable to maintain themselves.

A narrative of a voyage would not be complete without a sailor's yarn; and, in conclusion, we must give one told by the gunner of the Fawn :-

Being a very expert diver, he had been employed to recover the treasure from the Peninsular and Oriental Company's ship Ava wrecked a few years ago on the coast of Ceylon. Having, in a gutta-percha dress, made his way into the saloon, he was busy searching for the bullion, when, to his horror, he saw a huge ground-shark come sailing in at the door. With great presence of mind, he lay motionless on the locker, and watched it silently and grimly cruising about. One can well imagine his feelings when he saw its cold, green eyes fixed upon him, and felt it pushing against the leaden soles of his boots, and rubbing against his dress, the slightest puncture in which would have been certain destruction. After ten minutes of suspense, which must have seemed an age, during which the monster came back twice or thrice, to have another look at him, Mr. Pounds's courage and coolness were rewarded by seeing him steering his way back as he came. Afterwards he always armed himself with a large dagger when he went down to the wreck, from which he recovered altogether £220,000, having spent 850 hours under water.

Mr. Hood evidently came to his task rather unprepared by previous knowledge of what has already been written about Polynesia by the best authors, and his book does therefore not extend our horizon materially. But, as it is on the whole creditably written, it may be recommended to those who wish to acquire a general notion of Polynesian nations, their islands, and affairs.

### "THE PRICKE OF CONSCIENCE."

The Pricke of Conscience (Stimulus Conscientia.) A Northumbrian Poem, by Richard Rolle de Hampole. Copied and edited from Manuscripts in the Library of the British Museum, with an Introduction, Notes and Glossarial Index, by Richard Morris, editor of "Liber Cure Cocorum," &c. Published for the Philological Society, by A. Asher & Co., Berlin. (Trübner

ERE is another—the fourth—of the Early ■ English texts that the Philological Society has given us within the last three years; and, as it is the longest, so it is the most valuable for dialectal purposes that the Society has yet issued. We have on two or three occasions lately called attention to the importance of the study of the dialects of Early English, and pointed out the existence of a large mass of material in our different provinces sufficiently pure to enable a careful observer to compile lists or tables of the leading characteristics of each main division of our language; and we therefore hail with pleasure the appearance of the well-known and long-wanted "Pricke of Conscience" in the Yorkshire dialect of about A.D. 1340, with a short treatise on the Northumbrian dialect by Mr. Morris, who is already favourably known to the Early English world, as well by his edition of the quaint "Cookery Book" in verse (reviewed by us in our first volume), as by his paper on the "Dialect of Kent" before the Archæological Institute. This Northern dialect of ours was, in the main, the same as the Lowland Scotch; though, says Mr. Morris,

There are terms peculiar to each—as, for instance, in the Lowland Scotch we never find layt, to seek, amell (emell, omell), among, forwit, before, slike, such; while, in the Northumbrian, we never meet anerly, forouten, gretumly, inkerly, sic, &c. Sic is Scottish; slike marks a border dialect, and is evidently the Icelandic slik, such; swilk, A.S. swile, is the usual Yorkshire form.

But, as the main lines of vocabulary and grammatical inflection in these subvarieties coincide, Mr. Morris has arranged their characteristic features under the different parts of speech and their changes, nouns and cases, verbs and tenses, &c., and has given a cases, verbs and tenses, &c., and has given a joyful as a man who, being led to the gal-summary of these in two pages and a half lows, is suddenly put in the estate of a

(xxvi-xxviii), which will be very valuable to future editors of Northern texts, and for which we wish we could find room here. But we turn to Hampole's poem itself, in order to give a short account of what the old man did for the stimulation of the conscience of his generation, and for our instruction as to their feelings and ways. He says his "tretice may be called

"Prik of Conscience, als men may fele; For if a man rede and understande wele, And the materes tharein til hert wil take, It may his conscience tendre make. . And til mekenes, and luf, and drede, it dryfe, For to bring hym til ryght way of lyfe.'

He therefore divides his book into Seven Parts:-1. Of the beginning of man's life, the existence of God from all eternity, His creation of man, and the wretchedness of man's nature; 2. Of the unstableness of this world, and how a man should "not trist to this world that nys bot vanite;" 3. Of death. and why death is to be dreaded, for the "devels sal gadir obout hym than.

"Als wode (wild) lyons thai sal than fare, And raumpe on hym, and skoul and stare, And grymly gryn on hym, and blare.'

"The 4th Part telleth of Purgatory" and the pains there, and how it is situated under the earth, above the place where unchristened dead children are; for they from the sight of God's face are put for ever, in the place that is nighest above hell-pit, between purgatory and it. The 5th Part speaketh of the day of doom, and how that Antichrist shall draw unto him Gog and Magog, the worst folk that dwell in the world, who dwell beyond the Mounts of Caspy, and are kept in subjec-tion by the Queen of the Amazons; and, when he has killed Enoch and Ely, and ruled in his great "tyrantry" three years and a half, then shall he be slain on Olivet, and "an hydus fire" shall suddenly come and wholly burn the world; and the fire, and the damned, and all the filth of the world shall go into hell-pit, but the ashes of the rest shall become men again; and every one shall be just thirty-two years and three months old; and if 'any one's limbs through "outragiouste" of nature shall be unseemly, God shall abate the outrage, and make them seemly. And then shall Christ appear in the Vale of Jehosaphat, "myd the erthe," and on a white cloud judge the world. And, though he shall sit in judgment "and discusse alle thyng," yet "alle the processe" shall be sped in the twinkling of an eye. The 6th Part is of the pains of hell; how men shall be gnawed by vermin more grisly than are here, and dinged of devils with hammers glowing, and scalded by tears hotter than molten lead or boiling brass, and their heads shall be turned downwards and their feet upwards, and their bodies be strained by feet and head with burning bonds glowing red. Moreover, they shall be stuffed in the fire by devils full of scratte" one another in the ire, shail call each other cursed caitiffs, and hate with deadly hatred. The 7th, and last, Part is of the joys of heaven, and the City of Heaven, where the righteous shall dwell. And, as no one knows properly what it is like, and no clerk ever lived who could properly describe the fairness of it, the old Yorkshire monk

"Yhit wille I ymagyn, on myn awen hede Ffor to gyf it a descripcion, Ffor I have there-to gret affeceyon; And gret comforth and solace it es to me To thynk and spek of that fayr cete."

So he tells you how he likens it to a city of gold and precious stones, with garrets of rubies and corals, full of all manner of melody, music, and minstrelsy. And how its citizens have more beauty than Absalom, are as strong as Samson, swift as Asahel, wise as Solomon, free as Augustus, healthy as Moses, long-living as "Mattusale," as good friends as David and Jonathan, as honoured as Joseph, great as Alexander, united as Lisyas and Samson, as sure of their heavenly home as Enoch and Elijah, and, lastly, as

king. Also, every hair on their heads and their bodies is to be as bright as the sun, and they shall all sing with the angels—

"In swilk tones that sal be swete to here, With ful delitabel voyces and clere."

There is a recurrence once more to the old burden of the miseries of the damned; and the book winds up with an appeal to love God for himself, and not to lose the sight of Him, which is the "most principal joy of all," for any joy that ever was here, which can be "nought but passing vanity." Having thus pricked his hearers' consciences, Hampole assures them that they must be witless, or over-much hardened in wickedness, if they are not stirred thereby into the way of good-

The book is full of quaint phrases and thoughts, and, as it is to be had for twelve shillings, instead of being a Roxburghe book at two or three guineas and a half, it should find its way to the shelves of all readers of Early English, even though it is curiously deficient in allusion to the manners and customs of its time-in this point contrasting strongly with Robert of Brunne's "Handlyng Synne," and other works, which have them on every third page. The editor's sidenotes of the subjects treated, his index of subjects, notes, and careful glossarial index of words, add greatly to the accessibility and value of the book; while the fourteenth century table of contents from Mr. Yates's MS. is, so far as our experience goes, unique. Mr. Morris has done his work most liberally, adding quotations from unprinted MSS. in preface, notes, and glossary; and he has produced a work worthy of himself and the Society which publishes it-a work which no mean authority, the son of the poet Coleridge, has characterized as a permanent addition to the literature of our country.

## NOTICES.

The Stronges of Netherstronge. A Tale of Sedgemoor. By Emily Juliana May, Author of "Dashwood Priory." (Sampson Low, Son, and Marston. Pp. 324.)—A STORY in cast and purpose above the average; but, though not falling so the state of its and search of the state of th short of its end as to make one regret it has been written, and that one has read it through, yet not enabling one to recommend it strongly to others. To bring before you Cromwell on his death-bed, and Milton talking in Westminster Abbey-to make you stand by the Protector's grave, as the coarse sextons dig up his bones, and are cursed by a Puritan lady distraught, and rebuked by grave Dr. Owen-to take you through street scenes in the revelling time that ushered in Charles's accession, through others of quiet Puritan homes and country life—to show how the old God-fearers were led to espouse Monmouth's cause, and fight for the vain irresolute duke, when the ill-managed battle of Sedgemoor brought them defeat.on the field, and Jeffreys's bloody assize at home,—to do this without failure is creditable: and Miss-or is it Mrs. ?-May deserves praise for her performance. But the book is too quiet for lifelikeness; and you do not get at its principal characters as real men and women; they are studies at a distance from you, though all are careful and finished. The hero of the story is Melancthon Stronge, who, as a boy, is shipwrecked on the eastern coast, then sent to Westminster, to go to its school and live in its cloisters with his aunt. There he is kidnapped with and saves his cousin, Lord Fiennes's daughter Mabel; then he turns wool-dyer with his father in Somersetshire, is entrapped and carried off by Mabel's brother; she saves him, and he marries her, and they live a happy quiet life till the persecution of the Dissenters and the king's death make them turn eagerly to Monmouth. Stronge joins the duke's army, fights well, and escapes; his house and mills are destroyed; but, after a time, he gathers his wife and children together again, re-establishes new works at Wandsworth, "and here, in increasing affluence and comfort, he lived, leaving a fair inheritance and a fairer name, with Garrett House, to his son, who handed down the father's name and virtue to another generation." The book is a well-meant one, and is written with more than average care.

Bygone Days in Our Village. By J. L. W. (Edinburgh: Oliphant & Co.)—A nook which should have been a gem, but is only a stone.

Recollecting what Miss Mitford's "Our Village" was for England, we hoped to find in this book a like sunny spirit, making all the Scotch homes and people on which it shone glow with its own warm tint. But no: the cold grey shade of fine writing and constraint is over the work, and, though it has some of the interest that every record has of life gone by, yet we cannot give these sketches the praise we hoped they would have deserved. Two sentences, taken out of many such, will show why the book cannot be a success for one of its kind :-"All things earthly, even man himself, must submit to Time's invincible sway;" "Since the law forbidding vagrancy has been more strictly enforced, an interesting, and often romantic portion of this class [beggars] has almost entirely disappeared from our land; consequently, a few remarks on some of these characters may not be altogether devoid of interest." Is that the way to write about the beggars you care for? And if you, Mr. Author, don't care for them, how do you expect to make other people care? Again, is William Gourlay's got-up little speech (at p. 179) over his old love's grave what a man in his state of feeling would say? However, the book has interest, especially to a Southerner who knows nothing of the old Scotch village-life rapidly passing, if not wholly passed away, when the stupidest boy of a family was made the dominie or schoolmaster, and was paid by the produce of a cock-fight, or by hansels (presents) once a year, and when beggars thought they did you a favour by taking your alms. The "Drunkard's Home" is the best story of the half-dozen we have read, with the poor wife's pathetic "I canna leave Jamie - no, I canna do't, for a' that's come and gane." The book is very nicely printed in old type, and has three woodcuts, in the last of which is a pony who is said to gallop, but it has legs and hoofs like the heaviest of London dray-horses, and the most peculiar flat hocks that we ever saw, just as if he always walked or slid about on them.

Ordinances and Statutes framed or approved by the Oxford University Commissioners in pursuance of the Act 17 & 18 Victoria, chapter 81. (Oxford, at the Clarendon Press. Pp. vii-533.) WE hope that the somewhat old type with which this volume has been printed is not a mark of the disgust which part of the Oxford governing body felt at the Commissioners' doings. Whether such be the case or not, it is a great boon to have in one octavo all the statutes and ordinances that have been made for the Colleges and Halls in the University by the Commissioners, or the Colleges themselves with the Commissioners' assent. Lincoln and Corpus have perversely used their liberty to make their statutes in Latin, not following the wise example that the rector and fellows of Exeter set them in using their mother-tongue. For all the other Colleges-naughty boys their heads and fellows were—the Commissioners had to make ordinances themselves; and these, we need not say, are in English. God speed the dear old Colleges and their University under their reformed regulations; and, when a fresh reform is called for, may the obstructives be few and far between! Why shouldn't the noble old tree grow and spread

in the coming time? Life: its Nature, Varieties, and Phenomena. By Leo H. Grindon, Lecturer on Botany at the Royal School of Medicine, Manchester, author of "Figurative Language," "The Manchester Flora," "Manchester Walks and Wild Flowers." Edition. (F. Pitman. Pp. viii-401.)-MR. GRINDON is known to us favourably as the botanist who volunteered to take walks with the working men of the Salford and Manchester Colleges, and tell them a little of the beauty and wonders of the flowers they could find. In the present book he takes a wider range, indeed the widest of all. Acknowledging that the evidence for the existence of God is a balancing of probabilities, not a rigid mathematical demonstration, he assumes that existence as a necessity of man's mind, and regards all life as coming from God, as "the sustaining principle by which everything out of the Creator subsists, whether worlds, metals, minerals, trees, animals, mankind, angels, or devils, together with all thought and feeling;" so that, in water, "let the Divine life cease to act upon the constituent oxygen and hydrogen, no longer compelling them to combine—and every drop would instantly decompose and disappear." As life is in everything, anything can be discussed in this book; and accordingly the author deals with Laws of Nature, food, the atmosphere, motion, repose, the sea, clouds, the soul, death, rejuven-escence, disease, the spiritual world, &c., &c. He makes the soul a spiritual body, an internal man, a body within the corporeal frame, as, in the bones, composed of gelatine and earthy matter, "the

earthy matter may be dissolved away by acid, or the whole of the gelatinous matter be burned by calcination, and yet the form of the bone remain entire." The last two lines of the book are: "It is in true nights, when the skies put forth their radiant splendours, that even in this present life we see most of God." How much more we are tempted to ask, then, in a good man or woman doing a work of Love or Duty for the sake of God and the Right?

Mirabilia Descripta. The Wonders of the By Friar Jordanus, of the Order of Preachers, and Bishop of Columbum in India the Greater (circa 1330). Translated from the Latin Original, as published at Paris in 1839, in the Recueil de Voyages et de Mémoires of the Society of Geography, with the addition of a Commentary. By Colonel Henry Yule, C.B., F.R.G.S., late of the Royal Engineers, Bengal. (London: Printed for the Hakluyt Society. Pp. 68.)— FRIAR JORDANUS appears to have been a devout French missionary, and to have travelled over almost the whole East. We have chapters "Concerning Armenia," "Concerning the Realms of Persia," "Concerning India the Less," "India the Greater," and "India Tertia;" also "Con-cerning the Greater Arabia," the "Great Tartar," "Caldea," the "Land of Aran," the "Land of Mogan," &c.; the "wonders" of which the worthy "Bishop of Columbum" narrates in a very simple and direct way. It is to be noted that, in common with most mediæval travellers, whatever he relates as coming under his own personal knowledge is perfectly trustworthy, and, in most cases, consistent with modern knowledge. Of course the wonders about "dragons," "rocs capable of flying away with an elephant," "gryphons," "golden mountains," &c., he narrates only from hearsay, and in just sufficient number to give a pleasing pungency to the volume. The Society has been fortunate in its translator: for the notes of Colonel Yule indicate extensive reading and research, which a personal intimacy with many of the regions mentioned in the text has enabled him thoroughly to assimilate and digest. Without such notes Friar Jordanus would almost be a sealed book to us, but with them the volume is all we could desire. The Colonel can be facetious, as well as scientific and instructive, and he now and then enlivens the paper with an appropriate anecdote. In speaking of some of the exaggerations of Herodotus, he is reminded, he says, of "the question of a young Scotch lady just arrived in the Hoogly, when she saw an elephant for the first time, 'Wull you be what's called a musqueetae?' 'All mediæval travellers ought to be edited by men of Colonel Yule's stamp.

Surnames and Sirenames. The Origin and History of certain Family and Historical Names. With Remarks on the Ancient Right of the Crown to Sanction and Veto the Assumption of Names, and an Historical Account of the Names "Buggey" and "Bugg," By James Finlayson. (Simpkin, Marshall, & Co. Pp. 63.)—It seems the Buggs, after all, were men of renown, and as much entitled to armorial bearings as the Howards themselves. Mr. Finlayson's pamphlet shows all this clearly enough; but he is scarcely so successful when he attempts to prove that a man has no right to change his name. During the clanship period in Scotland it was frequently done; and an enterprising and successful chief would often have warriors under his banner who were not, though bearing his name, his born clansmen. Neither is our author very clear in his distinction between sirenames and surnames. A sirename, when the sire was really famous, naturally enough became a surname, and was proudly borne by all his descendants. We have examples of this in both feudal and clan history; but the sirename became hereditary in this manner only on the rarest occasions. So long as Mr. Finlayson adheres strictly to heraldry and history he is, so far as we have been able to discover, perfectly trustworthy; but he changes the venue, as lawyers say, and weakens his case when he enters the precincts of sacred and classical history. The pamphlet is dedicated to Lord Lindsay of Balcarres; and, upon the whole, its author commands our respect, if not always our unqualified approval.

Work in the World; or, a Life Worth Living. By the Author of "The Kingdom and the People," "Young Susan's First Place," &c. (Seeleys. Pp. xii—224.)—This is another of those most useful books that the Messrs. Seeley so often put forth, calling on some special section of the social world to work for the good of others, reminding us that we live in a boastful age, and that, of all things of which we boast, perhaps the first is "the wonderful amount of good that has been accom-

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plished, and is being done, by our charitable societies, hospitals, schools, churches," &c.; or, as we heard a member of a Whig Cabinet once put it, "everything that can be done for the working classes is done." The authoress of this book thinks otherwise: "after all our boasting, the whole of the (little) work which is done is accomplished by a very few. We are not a working Church, but rather a talking one;" and the people she here calls on to be up and doing are the educated young ladies of the present day. And surely any one who has heard those at all earnest among them describe their life-from Lady Blank, groaning over her dull stately dinners, her afternoon inane or gossiping visits and stupid drives, to Miss Wig, practising, novel-reading, crocheting, watercolouring, &c., &c.—knows how the cry of "Nothing to do" is a far truer one than the "Nothing to wear" we read and hear so much of. To all such this book will be welcome and useful. Though it is not well written, and is rather, not to say very, lectury, yet the account of how listless girls and women are one after another stirred up to help in mothers' meetings, schools, singing classes, kitchens, &c., and to learn about ventilation, nursing, &c .- this must do good in whatever form it comes.

Sermons preached in Lincoln's Inn Chapel, and on Special Occasions. By F. C. Cook, M.A., Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen, one of H.M. Inspectors of Schools, Preacher to the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn, &c. (Murray. Pp. vi-362.)-Knowing the services that Mr. Cook has rendered to the cause of education, and in what light he is regarded by many a London clergyman and schoolmaster to whose efforts he has done willing justice, and whom he has cheered on in dull and thankless work, we should feel quite safe in recommending his sermons if we had read none of them. But, having made trial of them, we can testify that we have found them fair, liberal, and moderate; full of a strong conviction of the reality of the bond between God and man, and such as would be helpful to men in practical life. Very profound we do not find them; and we doubt whether lawyers would be satisfied with the sermon on the Inspiration of Scripture and its followers; but the truth needed for practical work is seized and well applied; and we cannot doubt that many of Mr. Cook's hearers will be glad to be helped again by his printed words over and out of the hesitations and temptations, that his spoken words must have aided

them to encounter and overcome. Lettres du R. P. Lacordaire à Madame la Comtesse Eudoxie de la Tour du Pin. Publiées par Madame de \* \* \* \*. (Paris : Douniol.)-IT is a great pity that some really satisfactory life of Lacordaire should not be written, and a good selection from his letters published. With all its earnestness and eloquence, M. de Montalembert's book is most incomplete as a biography; and the two volumes of the great preacher's letters that have hitherto appeared are not calculated to give us a very exalted idea of his powers as a correspondent. This is disappointing, inasmuch as his friends entertained a very different opinion. Madame Swetchine said that he would never be fully known and appreciated till his correspondence had seen the light; and one of her latest cares was to see that his letters to her were placed in sure hands. These letters have not yet been given to the world, so that it is impossible to say whether her anxiety was justified; but the volume of letters addressed to young men, and edited by the Abbé Perreyve, which appeared towards the close of last year, offered no features of remarkable interest; and the present volume is not particularly able. Some of the letters, indeed, are useful, as filling up gaps in M. de Montalembert's biography; but, except for that purpose, they seem to us to possess little value. They are kindly and affectionate, and generally sensible, but nothing more. They are certainly far inferior in power to those of Lamennais, whom M. de Montalembert does not delight to honour. If we might offer a suggestion, it would be that Lacordaire's friends should publish a good selection from his correspondence, instead of publishing it piecemeal, as they seem inclined to do.

The Relations of Landlord and Tenant in India. (Serampore Press. Pp. 80.)-This pamphlet appeared originally as a series of articles in the Friend of India, and "is now published in a separate form, with the object of informing those in England who are interested in Indian progress, and in the hopes that it may be found of some use in bringing about that amendment of the Rent Law of 1859" which many high judicial authorities, English and Hindoo, have declared necessary.

The Principles of Christian Union as laid down in the Word of God. By the Rev. William White, Knox's Free Church, Haddington. (Edinburgh: W. P. Kennedy. Pp. 260.)—Mr. WHITE regards "the late Dr. McCrie as, in many respects, the greatest man of his age;" yet it appears that "his sentiments about the unity of the Church are not," as our author thinks, "in accordance with the oracles of God." Our readers will rightly gather from this that the lectures in this book are of a strictly polemical character. They relate mainly to the Scotch Church, and treat of such subjects as "the Unity of the Spirit," "the Basis of Union in the Church Invisible," "the Basis of Union in the Church Visible," &c. In the appendix are short articles on "Terms of Union in Apostolic Times," "Uniformity perfected in Popery," "Union between Free and United Presbyterian Churches," "Questionable Opinions of Dr. Chalmers and Dr. Cunningham," &c. The volume will interest Scottish theologians.

The Desk-Book of English Synonymes. Designed to afford assistance in Composition, and also as a work of reference requisite to the Secretary, and indispensable to the Student. By John Sherer. (Groombridge and Sons. Pp. 240.)-OUR author's chief authorities in this very useful compilation are Crabbe, Richardson, and Webster; and, from the very careful and complete manner in which he has got up his "Analytical Index," we should think the volume would

readily serve every purpose intended.

Transactions of the Chronological Institute of London. Containing Proceedings at the Equinoctial and Solstitial Meetings. With a Selection of Papers read on Chronological Subjects. (H. G. Bohn.)—This is the fourth part of the second volume of "Transactions of the Chronological Institute of London," and treats exclusively of "Sabbatical Years and Jubilees of Hebrew Chronology." The article is based upon extensive reading, and authors sacred and secular are freely quoted in every page. The institute is doing good service.

The Good Spirit. A Story for the Christmas Fireside. By G. Abbott. (Pitman. Pp. 26.)-This is a capital Christmas story, capitally told, of a disagreement between two families, which "the Good Spirit, Christmas," as mediator, steps in and makes up. The story is written in a nice

healthy tone. Letter from a Polish Patriot to the National Government of Poland. Published, with a Preface and Explanatory Notes, by D. K. Schédo-Ferroti. Translated by C. Sharp. (Jeffs. Pp. 83.)—WE are doubtful how "the National Government of Poland" will receive this pamphlet. Its general tenor may be gathered from the following sentence: — "Fate has decided that you" — the National Government-" must give way, that your power must sooner or later be subdued by the numerical superiority of your antagonists; and it therefore becomes for you a sacred duty not to stand in the way of the Polish people, not to retard the day when the Poles may legislate for themselves, and not to prolong a useless bloodshed."

The Foreign Enlistment Act. By Frederick Waymouth Gibbs, C.B. (Ridgway. Pp. 74.)— This is a temperate exposition of the statute of 1819, commonly called the Foreign Enlistment Act. Mr. Gibbs thinks this Act gives the Crown the power "to repress such violations of its territory " as are implied by the "commencement" there of a hostile act, and that "the language and policy of the statute concur to prevent the ports of England from being made either directly or indirectly stations of hostility.'

Hymns from the Land of Luther. Translated from the German. Second Edition. (Edinburgh: W. P. Kennedy. Pp. 348.)—The scarlet cover and mauve edges of this volume are in bad taste. Inside, however, all is beautiful. Almost every hymn has a floriated initial letter and an appropriate tail-piece. "The present edition includes the whole Four Series," and will make an excellent Christmas present.

## PUBLICATIONS OF THE WEEK.

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- ANDERSEN (Hans C.) Stories and Tales. Translated by H. W. Dulcken, Ph.Dr. With Eighty Illustrations, by A. W. Bayes. Imp. 16mo., pp. vini-372. Routledge. 5s.
- APJOHN. Galbraith and Haughton's Scientific Manuals. Experimental and Natural Science Series. Manual of the Metalloids. By James Apjohn, M.D., F.R.S. Fcap. 8vo., pp. viii-596. Longman. 7s. 6d.

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THE Archæological Institute have removed to their new rooms at No.1 in Burlington Gardens, where the first meeting of the session will be held on December 4.

THE famous group of Roman grave-mounds known as the Bartlow Hills, on the borders of Essex and Cambridge, has been condemned to destruction in order to accommodate a trivial feeder of the Great Eastern Railway. The matter having been brought under the notice of the council of the Archæological Institute, that body has addressed a remonstrance to the railway directors; and we hope they will be successful in preserving to us the picturesque group, which forms one of the most singular relics remaining of a very early and obscure period in the history of our country.

A PAPER on the subject of certain Egyptian papyri above four thousand years old will be read by Mr. Goodwin at the Society of Antiquaries at one of the meetings next month. These papyri are stated to contain the autobiography of an Egyptian adventurer under the earliest king of the twelfth dynasty, a part of a poem, and a long story, of which the incidents are referred to the third dynasty. A work on the same papyri has just appeared from the pen of M. Chabas, and was announced by us last week. We understand that the results of the decipherment of M. Chabas coincide with those obtained by Mr. Goodwin, who has been studying the papyri independently.

The inauguration of the Earl of Powis as Lord

High Steward of the University of Cambridge, in succession to Lord Lyndhurst, took place with all due ceremony at his mansion in Berkeley Square on Tuesday last.

THE name of a poem which the Poet Laureate has ready is "Enoch, the Fisherman."

An "original portrait" of Shakespeare is said to have been for some time in the possession of an eminent surgeon of Norwich. Mr. Hain Friswell, who has been to examine this amongst many other asserted portraits of the great dramatist, will describe it in his forthcoming volume, "Life-Portraits of Shakespeare." This volume,

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we understand, will possess the advantage, which no other of the kind possesses, of being accurately illustrated by photography. The appearance of the bust at Stratford taken by this means is described as being something "startling."

On the 17th instant an aged literary workman departed this life—William Robson, aged 78. Mr. Robson, the peculiar features of whose sad fortunes those who knew him will recognise, was in early life a schoolmaster. A fair scholar, a critic of delicacy as well as point, as those who have read his "Old Playgoer" will concede, Mr. Robson was also an industrious writer and translator. In his latter years he fell behind the age, and a committee of literary gentlemen stepped forward to help him. An appeal made lately to the public in our columns by Mr. Routledge was successful; but, at the very moment when the contemplated annuity was about to be purchased, the "Old Playgoer" stepped beyond the help of man, though not beyond his sympathy.

Messes. Ticknor and Field, of Boston, U.S., announce for publication amongst forthcoming American novelties: "The Life and Letters of John Winthrop," by Robert C. Winthrop; "Life of William Hickling Prescott," by George Ticknor; "In War Time, and other Poems," by John G. Whittier; "Soundings from the Atlantic," by Oliver Wendell Holmes; a new volume of "Poems," by Robert Browning; a volume of "Addresses and Essays," by R. W. Emerson; and "Mental Hygiene," by Dr. Ray, of the Butler

Hospital, Providence.

New American novels are: "Broken Columns;"
"Peter Carradine; or, the Martindale Pastoral,"
by Caroline Chesebro; "The Castle's Heir," a
a Novel in Real Life, by Mrs. Henry Wood; and
"The Old Helmet," by the Author of "The Wide
Wide World."

THE most recent Federal publications on the present Civil War are: 1. "The History, Civil, Political, and Military, of the Southern Rebellion, from its Incipient Stages to its Close. By Orville J. Victor." Whatever misconception the title might imply by the use of the word "Close," the author rectifies by calling this instalment of his publication "Vols. I. and II.," and thus indicating that his account of the war will keep pace with the progress of the struggle. 2. "Leaves from the Diary of an Army Surgeon; or, Incidents of Field, Camp, and Hospital Life. By Thomas T. Ellis, M.D., late Post-Surgeon at New York, and Acting Medical Director at Whitehouse.' And, 3. "Biographical Sketches of Illinois Officers engaged in the War against the Rebellion of 1861. By James Grant Wilson, Major commanding Fifteenth Illinois Cavalry."

THE Paris correspondent of the Daily Telegraph writes: "Literature ought to be looking up in France. During the present year there have been no less than 12,000 new works and 20,000 pieces of new music published in Paris, and 6000 works in the provinces. We are on the eve, too, of having several interesting works, among which I must mention a pamphlet on Poland, entitled 'Le Moyen de Pacifier la Pologne'-an admirable brochure, which will appear next week. Dumas, fils, too, makes a rentrée en scène with a play, 'L'Ami des Femmes.'" The same authority adds: "It is reported that the will by which Madame Lamartine left all her property to her husband, and which was made at London, is about to be set aside on account of informality. Truly the poetpolitician is an unlucky man; and his own expression, 'les années sont pleines de vicissitudes,' is a painful truth for himself."

George Eliot's novels have been translated into French by M. d'Albert Durade at Basle—"Adam Bede," in two volumes; "La Famille Tulliver, ou Le Moulin sur la Floss," in two volumes; and "Silas Marner, le Tisserand de Ravelac," in one. "Romola," by G. Eliot, is now added to the Tauchnitz series of English reprints; and "Tales of a Wayside Inn" and "Miles Standish" form the third volume of Tauchnitz's authorized edition of "Longfellow's Poetical Works."

Cousin has, we understand, now made his will. He has bequeathed his library, collected with immense care and trouble, to the State, under the condition that it should always form a special division of the National Library.

PROUDHON is about to start a new non-political paper. At the same time he is preparing a series of small pamphlets against the Opposition in the Chambers.

THE number of political journals in Paris and the departments is at present 318; of unpolitical ones, 6700.

Renan's "Life of Jesus" has been confiscated at Königsberg in Prussia.

THE University of Graz, in Austria, has hitherto been wanting a Medical Faculty. This has now been added through the munificence of the Emperor, who thus made it a complete "Universitas Literarum."

THERE has been issued a cheap German "people's edition" of Carlyle's "Frederic the Great," translated by J. Neuberg.

"AUSDEM kirchlichen und wissenschaftlichen Leben Rostock's; zur Geschichte Wallenstein's und des dreissigjährigen Krieges," by Dr. Otto Krabbe; "Das Finanzwesen des Ernestinischen Hauses Sachsen im 16ten Jahrundert;" "Der Staat und die Volkswirthschaft," by H. Reutzsch; "Shakespeare-Album; des Dichters Lebens- und Welt-Anschauung;" "Sitten und Gebräuche, by Hochzeiten, Taufen, und Begräbnissen, in Thüringen, nach mündlichen, brieflichen, und amtlichen Quellen," by Franz Schmidt; "Wie ward der letzte Orientalische Krieg herbeigeführt? eine historische Untersuchung?" "Das österreichlische Konkordat vor dem Richterstuhle im Reichsrathe vom Katholischen Standpunkte beleuchtet," are some of the recent minor German publications of an antiquarian, political, and miscellaneous nature.

OF recent and forthcoming German novels we have to notice:—" Die Elenden und Armen diesseits des Rheins," "Watteau," by Karl Frenzel; "Erzählungen eines alten Herrn," new series, by Gustav vom See; "Damals," tales of the Way of Liberation by Boson &c.

the War of Liberation, by Rosen, &c.

DURING the stay of Victor Emanuel at Naples, tickets for the San-Carlo Theatre reached an enormous price; but such was the enthusiasm throughout all classes of the population, that, as the papers reported at the time, a water-carrier, who had got possession of a pit-ticket, refused to dispose of it for something like 100 francs.

SEVERAL performances have taken place at the Teatro della Pergola in Florence, with the assistance of Mdme. Grisi, for the benefit of the wounded Poles

## CORRESPONDENCE.

(Anonymous Communications cannot be inserted.)

## COMETS IV. AND V., 1863.

To the Editor of THE READER.

SIR,—A telescopic Comet (Comet IV., 1863) was discovered on Oct. 9 by M. Baecker at Nauen, near Berlin. I have calculated the following parabolic elements, taking the corrections into account:—

Perihelion Pass	age,	18	83,	Dec	. 2	7.7	0863	G.M	.т.
Longitude of Perih	elion	1 .					180°	17'	53.4"
Longitude of node							104	51	28.8
Inclination							82	16	29.4
Log. of Perihelion							0.13	1932	
Motion							Dire	ct.	

Though this Comet will not become a very interesting object, it will be observable for some considerable time. I also send you the following ephemeris, calculated for Oh. mean time Greenwich, although only approximate, it gives the Comet's place with considerable exactness:—

Date.			of	A.R Com		of Co	Lg. dist from earth.		
Nov. 26		h. 13	m.	s. 59	+46°	31.7'	0.1276		
28	•	:	14	6	17	46	40.1	0.1254	
30	:		14	22	41	46	41.8	0.1239	
Dec. 2			14	39	1	46	36.2	0.1232	
4			14	55	15	46	23.9	0.1233	
6			15	11	11	46	4.8	0.1242	
8			15	26	45	45	39.7	0.1258	
10			15	41	50	45	8.7	0.1281	
12			15	56	25	44	32.7	0.1310	
. 14			16	10	23	43	52.6	0.1345	
16			16	23	46	+43	8.6	0.1387	

If we put the brightness of the Comet on Oct. 9=1.00
we find brightness on Nov. 30 3.72
Dec. 8 3.90
Dec. 16 3.72

A second Comet (Comet V., 1863) was discovered on Nov. 5 by M. Tempel at Marseilles. It was visible to the naked eye on that date, shining as brightly as a star of the fifth magnitude, and showing a tail of about 2 deg. in length. In the telescope it appears as a condensated nebula. This Comet was discovered shortly before it reached its Perihelion, and when receding both from the Sun and Earth. It will still be observable for a long time. I have calculated the following elements and ephemeris:—

Perihelion Passage, 1863, Nov. 9:49923 G.M.T.

Longitude of Perihelion 94° 46′ 10:6″ App. Eq.

Longitude of node 97 31 15:2 Nov. 13:5

Inclination 78 6 46:5

Log. of Perihelion 9:849148

Motion Direct.

EPHEMERIS OF COMET V. FOR OH. GREEWICH.

Date.	of	A.R. Con		of Co	Lg. dist. from earth.				
Nov. 23		h.	m. 12	s. 16	+21°	33.4/	9.8929		
23		. 14	28	58	23	36.9	9.9050		
3)		. 14	45	19	25	23.5	9.9184		
Dec. 2		. 15	1	12	26	55.0	9.9329		
4		. 15	16	28	28	12.0	9.9481		
6		. 15	31	5	29	16.3	9.9637		
8		. 15	44	57	30	9.4	9.9795		
19		. 15	58	.6	30	53.0	9.9954		
12		. 16	10	29	31	28.3	0.0112		
14		. 16	22	10	31	56.8	0.0268		
16		. 16	33	9	32	19.7	0.0420		
18		. 16	43	28	32	38.0	0.0569		
20		. 16	53	9	32	52.7	0.0714		
22		. 17	2	15	33	4.6	0.0855		
24		. 17	10	47	33	14.2	0.6991		
26 .		. 17	18	51	+33	21.9	0.1153		

Putting the brightness of the Comet on Nov. 24=1.00 we have brightness on Dec. 2 0.66 10 0.40

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, H. ROMBERG.

#### T. G. Barclay, Esquire's Observatory, Leyton, 1863, Nov. 22.

SHOOTING-STARS.

To the Editor of THE READER.

Collingwood, Hawkhurst, Nov. 21st, 1863. SIR,-On the mornings of the 13th and 14th of November shooting-stars were in this year somewhat more numerous than on ordinary nights. The heights of four meteors of this minor kind were determined with precision, and do not differ from the heights of the same kind of meteors observed upon the 10th of August last, A bright shooting-star commenced its flight on Thursday morning, the 12th inst., at 1h. 50m. a.m. from eighty-three miles above the coast of France, near Jersey, towards the S.S.E. A second, less bright, descended at 2h. 55 m. a.m. from a great height to fifty-three miles above the sea, ten miles south from Worthing, in Sussex. On the morning of the 13th inst., at 2h. 48m. a.m., a shooting-star, leaving a luminous train for two seconds, passed from ninety-three miles above Paddington (London) to fifty-six miles above Chertsey, accomplishing thirty-nine miles in half-a-second of time. As the time of maximum intensity of this shower drew near, meteors leaving luminous trains passed leisurely from east to west, directed from the rising constellation of the Lion. These meteors were completely distinguishable from a class of singularly rapid shooting-stars which emanated from the neighbourhood of the Pole, leaving no trains, and forming the majority of the shootingstars observed. These, probably, form a distinct class. A more pronounced return of the display was alone wanting to establish the conviction that the meteors proper to this period differ in no essential respect from those better known which are observed annually upon the 10th of August.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
ALEX. S. HERSCHEL.

## NEBULA IN THE PLEIADES. To the Editor of THE READER.

Hardwick Parsonage, Herefordshire,
Nov. 24, 1863.

SIR,—It may, perhaps, interest some of your
tronomical readers to know that the curious
bula in the Pleiades, discovered by Tempel at
enice, 1859. Oct. 19, and compared by him to a

astronomical readers to know that the curious nebula in the Pleiades, discovered by Tempel at Venice, 1859, Oct. 19, and compared by him to a "beautiful, bright comet," but seen so feebly, or so entirely missed by others, as to excite a suspicion of its variability, is now perceptible with my five-and-a-half-inch Alvan Clark object-glass. Not having for a considerable time referred to the account of it in the Astronomische Nachrichten, I did not know in what part of the cluster it was to be looked for, and merely recollected that one of the principal stars occupied a corner of it, and that it was widely extended, and perhaps that it was of a triangular form. On the night, how-ever, or rather morning, of the earthquake, and but a short time before that event, I easily detected, with a power of 64, as well as with a comet eye-piece, magnifying 29 times, a glow which I felt little doubt must be the object in question; but, having failed in identifying the stars the next day from the diagram in Arago's "Popular Astronomy," I waited for another opportunity. This occurred on the night of the 10th inst., when I again found it very readily with the comet eyepiece; and, on referring more carefully to the diagram, I perceived at once that the star connected with it was the right one, Merope, and that I could not have been mistaken in my impression. I certainly never should have discovered the object

unknown; but, as in so many other cases, it was sufficiently certain, if not obvious, when looked for. Though extremely undefined, it had an elongated form, apparently egg- or balloon-shaped, the smaller, and at the same time brighter end extending round the star Merope on every side. The direction of the major axis was supposed to make an angle of about 100 deg. with a line from Merope to Electra, and 140 deg. with another from Merope to Alcyone. My sketch on the former occasion would have ranged it nearly in the continuation of the latter line, but is less worthy of confidence. The extent on each night was independently estimated at one-third of the field, or about seventeen minutes of arc.

I remain Sir, yours obediently, T. W. WEBB.

P.S.—I have as yet had no opportunity of looking with sufficient attention for the nebulosity which, according to Goldschmidt's truly remarkable discovery, surrounds the Pleiades; in fact, I was entirely unacquainted with its details at the period of the foregoing observation; but I think it probable that I may succeed, as I find that the longer of Bond's canals in the nebula in Andromeda is within my reach, though only as the faintest object imaginable.

We shall take an early opportunity, now that the Pleiades are coming up, of giving in full the details of M. Goldschmidt's discovery referred to by our esteemed correspondent.-ED.

### GEOLOGY OF THE NILE VALLEY. To the Editor of THE READER.

19, Portland Place, W. SIR,—The very great interest which attaches to the subject of the geology of the Nile valley, which occupied the attention of the Geological Society at their last meeting, reported in your columns, induces me to communicate the following details of fact which I mentioned, but which, I fear, were not understood:-Lepsius found at Kummeh (a little above the Second Cataract) inscriptions of the 12th and 13th Manethonic Dynasties indicating the highest risings of the Nile as twenty-two feet above the present highest level. In the 18th dynasty the levels of the Nile risings were pretty much the same as they are now, the only difference being that occasioned by the general rising of the bed of the river from the deposit of the Nile mud. Now the interval between the 12th and 18th Manethonian Dynasties cannot be more than 500 years (it may not be half that period), and during this interval there has been a change equal to that above mentioned. The phenomena are exactly of the same kind as if it could be shown that in the time of Alfred the Great the highest tide level in any given spot were twenty-two feet greater than the highest tide level in the same spot in the time of Henry III. The causes that led to this remarkable change must have been sudden and paroxysmal, and could not have been the result of causes operating through millions of years, such as would be required to explain the slow degradation of rocks. Besides, any one who has seen Silsilis, the narrow gorge through which the Nile forces its way, with its sharply-defined, serrated cliffs, would at once he led such as that of Professor Ramsay's with much caution, if it be made to account for the geological features of the locality here referred to. Believe me, very faithfully yours, C. Nicholson.

## SCIENCE.

## "MAN'S PLACE IN NATURE" AT THE ANTIPODES.

IT is now some weeks ago since we learnt from the Australian papers that Professor Huxley's book was being discussed at Mel-bourne with an energy which promised that the controversy, which has now been carried on in the mother-country for some time, should be there revived with equal vigour and acerbity, if not with equal skill in the disputants. Thus we found Professor Halford, who, about two years ago, took the chair of Anatomy at Melbourne University, which had been left vacant by the decease of the amiable Mr. Pittard, delivering a course of lectures on the subject, in which invective took the place of argument, and abuse the place of facts, to such a degree, that the scientific character of the matter was entirely

lost, and we therefore had nothing to chronicle. Whilst, however, we regret that a professor of anything in any university should be guilty of such a lamentable exhibition of intolerant vehemence, we must congratulate Dr. Halford on the appearance of an authorized version of his lecture from which all offensive passages are eliminated, and in which his anatomical argument is left to rest on its own basis. We should scarcely, however, say left to rest; for no sooner was "Not like Man," the title of the reprint, out, than a reply, "Not Man, but Manlike," made its appearance; its writer, Mr. Thomson, being Dr. Halford's master, not only in anatomy, but what is more, in acerbity, as the following extract from the first paragraph will show:-

The lecture lately given by the Professor of Anatomy may be taken as a fair illustration of the theory it was meant to refute. It is now printed, and in this form, differs as widely from the second version as that differed from the first, showing what may be done with the principle of progressive development imported into literature. At first a rather animated discussion about monkeys, . . . . it then became a sober homily on natural theology; and now, in its third stirp, it has grown to be a treatise so severely scientific as to contain little else than a meagre catalogue of particulars, without the idea which connects them. More properly these are the changes of atavism, for in many things there is a falling-off. There is no longer the glowing rhetoric, the poetic verve, the apt quotation, the keen interrogatory, the climactic declamation, the almost prophetic strain, but merely the dry bones and ligaments of the question.... The devil gives way to the Creator, but equally out of place. The former was at work, prompting the writer of a mischievous book; the latter is mechanically occupied putting a short muscle to an imaginary hand, placed at a right angle to the bones of an equally hypothetical leg, which brings prime agents and second causes into very odd relation.

Professor Halford, in his preface, remarks: "The following observations are the result of an inquiry into the value of the statements lately put forth by Professor Huxley respecting the brain, hand, and foot of monkey and of man." We doubt not that Professor Huxley will be delighted to hear that Professor Halford found him "strictly correct" as far as the brain is concerned, although the Melbourne professor's plate is at variance with his own definitions. Passing superficially over the anatomy of the hand, he rises to the height of his argument in the discussion of the questions relating to the foot; and, as the argument is one of a nature hitherto unprecedented in the annals of anatomy, we shall here specially deal with it.

Now, on what is the argument grounded? Mr. Thomson, referring to Professor Huxley's book, very properly remarks that his statements are "founded upon a full comparative survey of every species," and that to confute them an equally extended survey

has not been made.

Dr. Halford, it appears, has dissected TWO Macaque monkeys, and from this not too vast experience proceeds to generalize on the distinctive characters of the Bimana and Quadrumana, and deprive the author of "Man's Place in Nature" of benefit of clergy accordingly. To these Macaci, moreover, he judiciously abstains from assigning any specific names.

The great point in Professor Halford's argument relative to the foot is the statement which, at his conclusion, he elaborates into the following corollary, "The existence of the Extensor ossis metatarsi pollicis is not alluded to by Professor Huxley; it is not present in the leg of man, and is essentially a muscle of a thumb, and not of a great toe." Be it in the first place remarked that the term Extensor ossis metatarsi pollicis is of Professor Halford's own coining, and that the muscle could not therefore have been alluded to as such by Professor Huxley. Aided by plate 4, which is of the most sketchy character, in spite of the epithet "beautiful" applied to it, let us examine, as, indeed, does Mr. Thomson, this bold assertion—bold enough to cause one to doubt the observation which gave

rise to it. Professor Halford describes the tibialis anticus muscle as arising "from the upper two-thirds of the surface of the tibia, from part of the interesseous membrane, from the intermuscular septum between it and the following muscle, and from the fascia of the leg. The tendon passes over the lower end of the tibia to be inserted into the internal and plantar aspect of the internal cuneiform bone. Its action is to turn the sole of the foot inward." Dr. Halford next proceeds to describe a second muscle, peculiar to the ape's leg, as contradistinguished from that of man, to which he applies the beforementioned high-sounding epithet extensor ossis metatarsi pollicis. This muscle he describes as nearly as large as the tibialis anticus, and arising "by a tendon from the outer side of the head of the tibia, from the intermuscular septa, and from the fascia of the leg. Its tendon passes down close to that of the former muscle, and is inserted into the inner side of the base of the metatarsal bone of the thumb. The name expresses its action." Thus far Dr. Halford; and, lest any reader unversed in anatomical investigation may accept the unfair conclusion that anatomists have unjustifiably suppressed the simple truth, and have disregarded the peculiar muscle in the ape to subserve a controversial object, we will quote the words of Dr. Halford's antagonist, Mr. Thomson, whose little pamphlet is evidently the production of a conscientious anatomist, desirous of eliciting truth alone, although much irrelevant matter and personal recrimination is introduced into its pages. "There is not in the whole lecture stronger proof of the deficiency of the lecturer as a philosophical anatomist than the account given of these so-called two muscles. From a single glance, it is plain that they are the very counterpart of the tibialis anticus in man" (p. 7). Mr. Thomson triumphantly follows up this allegation by turning to the first anatomical text-book at his disposal, by Gray, and showing that the tibialis anticus in man has, as every anatomist knows, two insertions, one into the the inner side of the entocuneiform, one into the base of the metatarsal of the hallux. In a spirit of victorious derision, Mr. Thomson copies on his frontispiece Gray's diagram, which shows the double inferior insertion of the muscle most lucidly; and how a "Professor of Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathology" could have perpetrated such an error is to us inconceivable. Mr. Thomson justly says: "For a similar blunder the examiner in anatomy will reject the first junior student who goes up before him." But the manner in which Dr. Halford claims the credit of having been the first to point out that the tibialis anticus in the ape is divisible into two tendons deserves our comment; and we shall call the attention of our readers to a few of the standard authorities on the subject.

The division of the inferior part of the tibialis anticus into two distinct insertions-one to the cuneiform, one to the metatarsal-in man, is distinctly recognised in the vast majority of anthropotomical treatises. In the gorilla, Duvernoy\* has told us that, "a little above the ankle, the tibialis divides into two parts, each having its tendon. The foremost of the two is inserted into the inside of the base of the first metatarsal. The other ends on the first cuneiform, and on the articular capsule of this bone with the first metatarsal. This muscle partly answers to the abductor pollicis longus of the hand. It presents little difference in the orang, except that the separation into two tendons takes place higher, and that the foremost tendon does not subdivide itself. In the chimpanzee the muscular division takes place sooner, so that there are properly two muscles. One fixed to the forward and upward face of the tibia is the largest, and sends its tendon to the first cuneiform. The other, principally attached

<sup>·</sup> Archives du Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle. Vol. VIII.,

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to the interesseous ligament and to the fibrous sheath of the leg, terminates by a more slender tendon at the base of the first metatarsal. The muscle which is attached to the first cuneiform answers to the abductor pollicis, which terminates at the trapezium; the other to the other portion of the abductor which goes to the first metacarpal." It is needless to say that Duvernoy's eighth and ninth plates entirely corroborate this lucid description. Turning next to the orang, we have in Owen's dissection notes\* mention made of the same character. He says:—"In close connexion with the tibialis anticus arises another muscle not found in man; it becomes tendinous about three-fourths down the leg, and is inserted into the base of the metatarsal bone of the thumb, which it extends; this muscle is found in the chimpanzee, and also, according to M. Cuvier, in the inferior Simiæ." We believe that the passage in Cuvier referred to must be that in which it is stated that "monkeys have, on the inner side of the extensor pollicis longus, an abductor pollicis longus, which is wanting in Since the time of Cuvier, however, a more minute homological relationship has been established between these two separate slips and the totality of the partly divided tibialis anticus in man; and we must extract from the latest writer on the subject, to whose valuable memoir we must refer, the following description of the condition in the orang-

Its tendon [that of the tibialis anticus] was split into two portions, the posterior and larger being inserted into the cuneiform bone, the anterior and smaller into the base of the metatarsal bone of the hallux. In this instance there was no division of the muscle into fascicles, as described in Article "Quadrumana" in the "Cyclopædia of Anatomy and Physiology," and in the Proceedings of the Zoological Society; therefore I think there is no reason to consider the anterior division of the tendon as belonging to the abductor hallucis tongus, especially when we observed a similar arrangement in the abductor pollicis, and that in man a small slip of tendon normally passes on to the metatarsal of the great toe. In the Chimpanzee Professor Owen states that the tendon is inserted into the scaphoid. In the Cebus the muscular belly is divided into two fascicles, which may be regarded as the abductor pollicis longus and tibialis anticus. In the Magot the same arrangement is found.

We have now, we think, by the citation of the above authorities, placed the question, so far as regards this muscle, in its proper aspect; and we must only pass briefly over the other arguments of Dr. Halford, to prove what De Morgan would call the noncompossibility of transmutation from his dissections of two monkeys' legs. The argument with regard to the transversus pedis muscle is the most forcible amongst the original ones which Dr. Halford adduces. In the monkey's foot, as originally noticed by Tyson, this important difference was hinted at; a high authority, however, informs us that the transversus pedis exists better developed in many apes than in man, a fact which destroys the serial value with which Professor Halford invests it. The rest of Professor Halford's arguments as regards the extensor proprius, peroneus longus, extensor brevis digitorum, flexor pollicis longus, lumbricales, and other arguments, are sufficiently answered by Mr. Thomson, and to his pamphlet we must refer the reader.

In conclusion, we can only express our deep regret that such anatomical statements, resting upon so slight a foundation, should have led a Professor of Anatomy, conscious of present and future responsibility, to insinuate personal imputations, and to base a theory of the special creation of the human species on grounds which must be rejected by every anatomist who has enjoyed the pleasure, known only to the initiated, of dis-

secting the ape side by side with the human subject. To Mr. Thomson our thanks are due for his prompt exposure of the fallacies of his antagonist; and, whilst we disagree with him respecting the tone of many of his remarks, we must congratulate him on the spirit of his excellent pamphlet. We are content to leave Professor Halford in his hands.

#### EARLY SUN-PICTURES.

IT is now more than six months ago since we were able to inform our readers that there were grounds for supposing that the art of photography, like many other sub-solar things, was not quite so new as was generally imagined. Since that time everyone has heard of the discovery in Boulton's lumber-room, which gave rise to our remark; and untiring have been the efforts of all interested to learn something more of the matter, which really has an appearance of national importance about it, seeing that England must share with France the honour of discovering photography should the verdict in this cause célèbre be given in our favour; but we must not forget that the daguerreotype on metal plates, and Mr. Talbot's Talbotype on paper were both discovered at the same time-independently-one in England and the other in France, and that, while photography on metal plates has almost ceased to be practised, on paper, on the contrary, it daily assumes a greater importance.

The trial of these sun-pictures came on at the last meeting of the Photographic Society, Mr. Smith of the Patent Museum, who deserves the thanks of all lovers of photography, detailing every item of information he has been able to obtain about them to a critical audience, which, to say the least, was not prejudiced in their favour.

The pictures in question consist of two on silver plates, about seven inches by four, and several on paper, these latter being left-handed reproductions, in monochrome and colour, of pictures by Benjamin West, Angelica Kauffman, and other eminent artists. Some of them are very large, and done in two pieces. There are, moreover, two alleged photographs by Wedgwood, one, eight inches by six, being a view of a breakfast-table, having much the appearance of a faded silver print, and another, similar in appearance, a small reproduction of a drawing.

These pictures, however, fortunately, are not the only things which some twenty years ago were exhumed from Mr. Boulton's private library, which had then been closed for about fifty years. Many tons of books and papers have been discovered; and from them Mr. Smith's evidence was in great part compiled, especially that referring to the paper pictures. More than this; a camera, some 12 inches cube, made of oak, roughly fitted with a lens of  $2\frac{1}{3}$  or 3 inches aperture, was also discovered;—this, at present, though Mr. Smith is on the trail, is, alas! a missing link in the evidence.

And now a word for the atmosphere in which Watt and Boulton lived. The old house at Soho, if we are to credit Boulton's "cad," who died eight years ago, had often celebrities beneath its roof. Boulton was a member of the Lunar Society, composed of "great gentlemen, who came every full moon night, stopping very late" (!), and apparently given to masonic rites! Nor was it a society which would be likely to meet for nothing; for it contained among its members Dr. Priestley, Dr. Parr, Sir W. Herschel, Sir J. Banks, Benjamin Franklin, Josiah Wedgwood, Dr. Darwin, Dr. Black, and others; and the latter, it is stated, came from Scotland to attend the meetings. This was about 1780-90. Miss Meteyard, who at the present moment is writing Wedgwood's life, supplies the following valuable evidence, which goes to prove that Boulton and Watt were not alone in their experiments at the latter date:-

You may with safety refer the first experiments in photography to as early a date as 1790 or 1791. In the latter year I find Thomas Wedgwood (third surviving son of Josiah Wedgwood) sending his camera to Birmingham to be mended; ordering silver cylinders, solid in form, highly polished, and turned on a lathe; and desiring to have sent him a coil of silver wire of extraordinary fineness. He has also common barometer-tubes blown with a bulb.

The first process seems to have consisted in laying the nitrate of silver upon paper, and then, by means of the camera obscura and the solar rays acting on the paper, a perfect impression was obtained of any object in half-asecond; but the image soon faded on exposure to light, and after a while disappeared. Subsequent improvements were made; but the result was not satisfactory, even at a later date, when Sir H. Davy assisted in these experiments. . . . . These and other chemical experiments were extraordinary, considered relatively to a youth of eighteen or nineteen years of age, and the then somewhat early stage of philosophical knowledge and analytical training. But, even before this, there can be no doubt that young Wedgwood and his father's resident chemist, Alexander

Chisholm (who entered the elder Wedgwood's service in 1781), had worked together in pleasant companionship, and we may very reasonably assume that the two photographs in your possession were the results of this companionship in science. One of the photographs is undoubtedly a representative picture of the breakfast-table at Etruria Hall, as we see upon it articles of jasper-ware adorned with cameo-work of the usual kind. It is probable that these supposed pictures of Wedgwood are early specimens of Mr. Fox Talbot's art. We believe that Dr. Diamond, the esteemed Secretary of the Photographic Society, has in his possession a picture given him years ago by Mr. Fox Talbot in which the SAME vessels are represented.

Add to this Davy and Wedgwood's assertion in 1802, that, up to that time, they had found no means of fixing sun-pictures, and the probability of the discovery is increased wonderfully.

There is, however, another society in question, a "Polygraphic Society," which flourished as early as 1780, and turned out pictures by the dozen, as evidenced by the following order:—

Gent.,—We send you orders for some few Pictures, which must be painted in a much more masterly manner than the Pictures you sent as samples. They are all to be painted on Cavas—the particulars on the other side—you will please to write us by return of post says the time they certainly can be got ready—& we likewise wish to know if the same subjects cannot be done on diff sizes and shapes—suppose—Rynaldo preventing Armyna from stabbing herself—you give us the size of 50 In. high by 40 Inches wide; can this same picture be done 24 In. high by 30 Inches wide—we shall likewise want the Vale of Tivoli, some Views of Naples & a variety of Views of Italy & likewise of other diff Views—the sizes which best please 24 In. by 30 In.—you'l not delay giving us the Particulars—we cannot help thinking your prices very high, and request you'll further consider & give us another list of prices—we mean the Pictures only without the frames, as those we chuse to have made ourselves—the wise men's offering must be of size ab. 24 by 30.

For Self & Co. Yr. H. Ser. RICHD, CLARKE.

Here follow seventeen subjects; two pictures of each are ordered; among them are:—

2—The Virgin & Child w<sup>th</sup> St. J<sub>o</sub>hn . 30 24 2—Rynaldo prevent<sub>g</sub> Armyna fr<sub>m</sub> stab<sub>g</sub> herself . . . . 50 12

Judging, moreover, from the entries in the books, Mr. Smith thinks that there must still be a great many of these pictures in London; for the nobility and gentry of the day bought largely, and at very low prices. Indeed, Mr. Smith thinks that Government had something to do with the suspension of this trade, because Eginton, who was the soul of the society and held the secret, was offered a pension; but Boulton objected to it in a letter to Lord Dartmouth. He writes:—

In the first place, I wish to have an entire stop put to the pension, because Mr. Eginton hath no claim nor expectations. I pay him by the year; and consequently he is already paid by me for all the three or four months spent in that business; and as to an overplus reward for his secrecy, I know how to do that more effectually and with more prudence than giving him annually £20, which will only serve to keep up the remembrance of that business, and therefore 'tis impolitical.

Besides, it might perhaps be injurious to me, as such a pension would tend to make him more independent of me and my manufacture.

And then he very naively adds :-

If anybody is entitled to any pecuniary reward in this business it is myself, because I have not only bestowed some time upon it, but have actually expended in money between one and two hundred pounds, as I can readily convince your lordship when I have the honour of seeing you at Soho.

But it would appear that there were two Polygraphic Societies in the field; for an advertisement in the Public Advertiser, Feb. 15, 1700, refers to the exhibition of a Polygraphic Society, and the catalogue and pamphlet by a Mr. Joseph Booth. The society exhibited at 381 Strand (since pulled down) a method of copying pictures by "chymecal" and mechanical process, and possessed the invention of Mr. Joseph Booth. The catalogue called attention to certain duplicate copies of pictures to prove that they had not been produced by hand, and also to the fact that the pictures would be ready for distribution during the summer, which certainly has been correctly termed "a very photographic kind of allusion." In the British Museum, moreover (press-mark 1044 d), is a small pamphlet, published in 1788, by this Booth, "An Address to the Public on the Polygraphic Art." A singular circumstance connected with him was that he subsequently took out a patent for manufacture of cloth, certain chemical compounds, "&c.," and obtained an Act of Parliament, enabling him to secure his patent without divulging his secret, the specification being examined by two masters in Chancery, who were

Proceedings of the Committee of Science and Correspondence of the Zoological Society of London, 1830-31, p. 70.

<sup>†</sup> Leçons d'Anatomie Comparée. Os et Muscles des Extrémités. Ed. 1836, p. 552. † On the Myology of the Orang-Utang. By William Selby Church. Nat. Hist. Rev., 1862, p. 88.

sworn to secrecy. It was quite possible that the "&c." might include this process of copying pictures. The catalogue had no date, but the collateral evidence pointed to 1792, or thereabout.

teral evidence pointed to 1792, or thereabout.

Thus we find from independent contemporary sources that about 1790 there was a mysterious something going on in which picture-copying was concerned; if we admit tradition, and especially the testimony of the before-mentioned "cad," we have other evidence. Mr. Price writes:—

He told me that Mr. Beechey, afterwards Sir William Beechey, painted Matthew Boulton's picture; and, when he was at Soho, Mr. Boulton explained this invention of taking sun-pictures. Sir William then went amongst all the artists, and got up a petition or memorial to Matthew Boulton and the Lunar Society, begging them to stop, because the secret, if made known, would be the means of "shutting up the painters' shops." This was poor old Townsend's expression.

He moreover stated that he saw Boulton take a picture of the house, and that he went into a dark place to do it.

One part of this main statement, at least, is proved to be true by the following entry in the Royal Academy Catalogue of 1799:—"209. Portrait of Mr. Boulton, of Soho, Staffordshire. Sir W. Beechey, R.A."

And now a word about the pictures themselves. There is no doubt whatever of those on the silver plates being photographs; one of them is sadly faded—the other is readily distinguishable. One salleged to be a view of the house of Mr. Boulton since the alteration, and the other before it was altered; and that alteration was made in 1791

altered; and that alteration was made in 1791. The paper pictures, teste Mr. Smith (deputy-chairman of the National Portrait Gallery), were not produced "either by engraving, drawing, or painting, or by any other method of which he had any knowledge; they bore no traces of handiwork whatever;" and, bearing the price in mind, it really seems impossible that they can have been produced by hand for the money.

The antiquity of the paper pictures is undoubted; the paper itself proves it, for it bears the name of Whatman, without a date, the date having been inserted continuously since 1794. It is also acknowledged that they are really productions of the Polygraphic Society. But those who deny that photography produced the paper pictures, acknowledging their antiquity, deny antiquity to the silver plates, acknowledging them to be verit-

able photographs.

We need not examine the evidence on the first point—the palpable demonstration suggested by Booth is open to us. Let two of these polygraphic pictures be compared together or with the originals with mathematical precision—we do not mean as to size, but to their relative proportions, for there is evidence that they could make the pictures of all sizes—if they differ we shall then have a better reason for rejecting than the one given at present, which is, that we cannot imi-

tate them. With regard to the undoubted photographs on the silver plates, we have yet to determine the nature of the deposit, especially as no trace of silver has been found, and, if possible, to connect them with the date in question more positively. Now, although they have been microscopically examined by Dr. Diamond, who has proved their notographic nature, we think it possible that a further similar investigation—seeing that one of them represents the house as it stands nowshould put out of the field such an objection as that urged by Lieut. Col. Stuart Wortley, who suggests that they may be photographs of a house like in form to Watts', sent over by Nièpe in 1827 or '28. Indeed, we understand that a gentleman who has written on the art, and whose authority is great, expresses his conviction that the metal plates are genuine photographs, and executed by means of the action of light on "resin with essential oil," thus differing entirely from the mercurial process of Daguerre. This opinion has been formed by minute scientific examination since the meeting of the Society.

Our space is exhausted, or we should refer at greater length to the objections urged at the meeting against the authenticity of the pictures;—for our part we expected to see a stronger array of objections, and those of greater weight than the ones brought forward. A more fitting subject could scarcely occupy the attention of the Photographic Society; and, as Mr. Smith, whose action in the matter is worthy of all praise, has left it in their hands, we trust they will move for a new trial, obtain more evidence, and, if possible, settle the matter, bearing in mind that, should Boulton, or Watt, or Wedgewood, or Eginton, have discovered photography, there is room for them in the rolls of fame, and that the credit due to those who re-discovered the art will be none the less.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

WE must refer our astronomical readers both to our correspondence and to the report of the Royal Society for much that will interest them. With regard to M. Romberg's valuable communication, we may remark that Comet V. becomes Comet IV., if we reckon, as we undoubtedly should, by perihelion passages and not by dates of discovery.

WHEN, in 1820, the observatory of Kænigsberg was enriched with the meridian circle of Frauenhofer and Reichenbach, Bessel found himself in a condition to proceed with the execution of a project for which he had some time watched the opportunity. Having arranged the celestial sphere in zones or wide bands of two degrees, he set himself to observe the positions of all the stars, to the ninth magnitude, comprised in each of their zones; and, in the interval of twelve years, he exhausted, in this manner, the part of the sky which extends from the celestial parallel of 15° of southern declination to that of 45° of northern declination. The first zone was observed on the 19th August, 1821, the last on the 21st January, 1833. The total number of observations is 75,011. Each time that the sky was favourable, Bessel observed for two hours, then rested for half-anhour, and resumed his work for two hours more; he came by this means to determine sometimes in an evening the positions of some 200 stars. M. Maximilian Weisse, director of the observatory at Cracow, has been directed by the Academy of St. Petersburg to prepare a summary of these zones. In 1846 the catalogue of 31,085 stars comprised in the zones from -15° to + 15° of declination was published under the direction of M. W. Struve. During the present year the positions deduced from the 37,862 observations between + 15° and + 45° have been made public in a magnificent catalogue printed under the direction of M. Otto Struve; this publication has been retarded by the necessity of going over again a great part of the calculations, owing to the discovery of certain systematic errors in the auxiliary tables. The number of different stars contained in this last catalogue is 31,445; but, deducting those which, from the uniform reduction to the year 1825, fall within the limits of the first catalogue, we find that Bessel has observed in all—

31,169 different stars between - 15° and + 15°

" + 15 and + 45 39 -or 62,609 between - 15° and + 45°. The observations contained in the second catalogue embrace the period from 1825 to 1833. Bessel's assistants have been, by turns, MM. Rosenberger, Anger, Busch, Argelander, and Steinheil. They were entrusted with the reading of the declinations, whilst he himself observed the passages on the meridian. It is known that the Academy of Berlin has published a celestial atlas of twentyfour maps, based upon the first part of the zones of Konigsberg, and including all the stars comprised in the nine first orders of magnitude, with a certain number of stars of the tenth magnitude, between - 15° and + 15° of declination. These maps have been an inappreciable assistance to astronomers who wished to find the relative position of a comet or a planet to a known fixed star. They have, above all, facilitated the discovery of small new planets, and even that of the planet Neptune. M. Weisse's new catalogue furnishes ample material for new maps; but the appearance of the admirable "Atlas Céleste" of Bonn dispenses with a similar work; and, indeed, the admirable "Berlin Star Maps" which have done such good service are new superseded such good service are now superseded.

A FRAGMENT of lower jaw of an insectivorous, and possibly marsupial mammal, associated with teeth, probably referable to *Hyracotherium cuniculus*, and with the incisor tooth of a small pachyderm, have been found by Mr. A. Bott in the Woolwich and Reading beds. The fragment of lower jaw is of a most interesting character, and may prove to be that of a new genus of insectivorous mammalia.

Bones of *Bos longifrons*, alleged to have been cut with flint implements, have been discovered by Mr. Geo. E. Roberts near Saffron Waldron. He will shortly describe them before the Anthropological Society of London.

WE hear that an important work, embodying new researches on the zoology of the Polar Seas, will be shortly published by Mr. T. Tate, son of the secretary to the Berwickshire Naturalists' Field-Club.

THE discovery of chipped implements of crystalline quartz at Chanduy, near Guayaquil, in Ecuador, and their immediate description by one of the secretaries of the Geographical Society, Mr. C. R. Markham, will, no doubt, form an interesting subject of discussion amongst palæ-anthropologists. There are very few implements of this material known to antiquaries, probably less than six in the classified collections.

Mr. Christy has presented to the Geological Society a slab of stalagmite, part of the floor of a cave recently explored by M. Lartet and himself at Les Eyzies, in Dordogne. In it are cemented flint implements and bones of reindeer, and other animals. We understand that it will be exhibited at the next meeting (Dec. 2nd) of the Geological Society.

## PROCEEDINGS OF FOREIGN ACADEMIES. Paris.

Academy of Sciences. Nov. 9. M. Chevreul.— Remark on a Note relative to the Restoration of Old Stained Glass printed in the Compte-Rendu of the preceding séance.

M. Hermite.—On the Functions of Seven Letters.

M. Le Verrier.—Communication relative to the

Pyramid of Villejuif.

M. Kuhlmann.—New Researches on the Preservation of Building and Ornamental Materials.

M. Pouchet.—Observations made on Mont Blanc at an elevation of 14,800 feet.

M. Persoz.—Study of the Tungstates, and on the Equivalent of Tungsten.

M. Fermond —Organophytogenic Composition

M. Fermond.—Organophytogenic Composition of Leaves.

M. Chatin.—On some General Anatomical and Physiological Fact sobserved in the Cytinus; and on the Nutrition and Respiration of Parasite Plants.

M. Dupré.—Application of the Dynamical Theory of Heat to the Discussion of M. Regnault's Experiments on the Compressibility of Gases.

M. Thoman.—On Integrals with Finite Differences.

M. Corenwinder.—Chemical Researches on the Banana of Brazil.

M. de Caligny.—New Considerations on the Application of the Dynamical Theory of Heat to the Calculations of the Effects of the Water Compressors employed at Mont Cenis.

M. Valin.—On Pattinsonage.
M. Freytag.—On the Calculation of Sines.

M. Freytag.—On the Calculation of Sines.
M. Caron.—On the Influence of Fluxes on the
Composition of Manganese Founts.

M. Mascart.—On the Ultra-Violet Rays.
M. Scoutetten.—New Experiments on the Electricity and Electro-motive Force of the Blood.
M. Berthelot.—Action of Oxygen on Wine.
M. Berthelot.—On the Oxidation of Alcohols.

M. Berthelot.—On the Oxidation of Alcohols.
 M. Ridan.—On the Poisoning Principle of Coriaria myrtifolia.

## BERLIN.

Royal Prussian Academy of Sciences. August. Dove.—On the Compensations of Synchronous Meteorological Phenomena.

Haussen.—On the History of the Agricultural System in Germany. Parthey.—On a Manuscript in the Vatican

Library.

Poggendorff.—On the Thermal Properties of

Electric Sparks,
Ehrenberg.—A Contribution to our Knowledge
of the Submarine Bank at the Southern Extremity
of Africa as a Cretaceous Rock containing Green

Sand and Polythalami.
Volckmann.—On Identical Spots in the Retina, communicated by M. du Bois Raymond.

## VIENNA.

Imperial Academy of Sciences. Mathematical and Natural Science Section: — Handl. — The Crystalline Forms of some of the Salts of Sulphate of Phenyl.

Reuss.—On Paragenesis of the Minerals found in the Metallic Veins of Pribram.

Kanitz.—Contributions to the Chartography of the Principality of Servia.

Ettingshausen.—An Account of the Recent Progress in the Discovery of Nature-Printing, and on the Application of the same to the Representation and Investigation of the Skeletons of the Flat Parts of Plants.

Tschermak.—A Contribution to the History of the Formation of Amygdaloid.

Steindachner.—Contributions to our Knowledge of the Fossil Fishes of Austria. Hyrtl.—On Injections of the Kidneys of Vertebrate Animals, and the Results. = 28 NOVEMBER, 1863.

Tschermak.—On the Order of Formation of the Minerals of some sorts of Granite.

Zirkel.—Microscopico-lithological Studies.
Winckler.—On some Formulæ for Reductions in
Integral Calculations.

Overbeck.—On Albuminous Urine caused by Stoppage of the Circulation of the Blood.

Oppolzer.—Calculation of the Path of the Planet (64).

Zawarykin.—The Origins of the Lymphatics in

the Kidneys of Vertebrate Animals.
Safarik.—Chemical Communications.

Friesach.—On Evolution in Series.

Mauthner.—On the Pathological Histology of

Haidinger.—On the Aerolite which fell at Albareto in the year 1766, and which is now in the Imperial Mineralogical Collection; and on Troilite.

Wertheim.—A further Communication on Cony-

V. Littrow.—Physical Conjunctions of the Asteroids in the year 1863.

Maly.—On the Compounds of Ammonium and Uric Acid.

Stefan.—On the Propagation of Heat.

Böhm.—Contributions to a further knowledge of Chlorophyll.

Rollett.—On the Influence of the Dischargecurrent (Entladungs-ström) on the Blood.

### LEARNED SOCIETIES.

Royal Society, Nov. 19. Major-General Sabine, President, in the chair. W. Crookes, Esq., Professor Frederick Field, and J. Russell Hind, Esq., were admitted into the Society.-THE following communications were read :- A general Catalogue of Nebulæ and Clusters of Stars for the year 1860, with precessions for 1880. By Sir J. F. W. Herschel, Bart., F.R.S. This most important contribution to our astronomical literature contains all the nebulæ and clusters of stars which Sir John Herschel has been able to find described and identified in position sufficiently to warrant their insertion. The number of objects is no less than 5078, including-1. 2508 observed by the late Sir Wm. Herschel, and already catalogued in the Philosophical Transactions. 2. Those in Messier's list, numbering 102. 3. Those included by Auwers in his Verzeichniss neuer Nebelflecken, about 50, and those of Lacaille's, which seem entitled to be recognised as such from the descriptions given of them. 4. Those pointed out by Lord Rosse (Phil. Trans. 1861.) 5. The nebulæ discovered by M. d'Arrest, and some few others described in various places. 6. Fifteen nebulæ communicated by Professor Bond, included in a supplementary list. The remainder, a goodly number, are those previously communicated to the Royal Society by Sir John Herschel in 1833, and those to be found catalogued in his Cape observations. All these objects were in the first instance brought up to the common epoch, 1830-the reduction to 1800 of all the individual observations by Miss Caroline Herschel, in the case of those discovered by Sir Wm. Herschel, being used. This reduction, arranged in the form of a catalogue of zones, together with the originals of all the sweeps in which the observations are contained, and a synoptic register of those of each nebula, in separate sheets for reference with the original papers, as well as the whole series of Sir Wm. Herschel's observations of Messier's nebulæ, accompany the communication. The places of the nebulæ have been first brought roughly up to 1860, the places thus obtained being used for computing the precessions for 1880, by the application of which to the original places the final and exact places for 1860 should be obtained. This method renders the present catalogue available up to 1930 at least. Unlike the original catalogues reduced from the "sweeps," the one now presented to the Royal Society is arranged in the order of R.A., columns being given to show the general number, synonyms, references to original authorities, prec. in R.A., and the number of observations on which this element depends, and the same set of columns for N.P.D. There are given, besides, brief descriptions of the objects and columns showing the number of times the object has been observed by Sir Wm. and Sir John Herschel, and giving reference to engravings of the object where such exist. In these notes is also to be found a comparison of the present catalogue with that of Auwers before noticed, of the existence of which the compiler was not aware until the catalogue had been arranged and copied. This comparison has been the means of correcting

errors in both catalogues. It is impossible to praise too much the vast degree of care evident in every particular of this great work, or to overestimate its value to observational astronomers. Upon the conclusion of the communication, the President congratulated the Royal Society upon having Sir John Herschel once again among them; and Sir John Herschel referred briefly to some points of his catalogue.

"Note on Kinone." By A. W. Hofmann, LL.D., F.R.S. - The author commenced by stating that the easy and perfect transformation of beta-phenylene-diamine into kinone, pointed out in a former communication, induced him to examine the action of oxidizing agents upon other derivatives of the phenyl-series. Aniline, when submitted to the action of a mixture of peroxide of manganese and sulphuric acid, furnishes very appreciable quantities of kinone, which sublimes, the residue containing the sulphates of ammonium and manganese. The experiment succeeds much better with benzidine. On heating the mixture of this base with the oxidizing agents, torrents of kinone are instantaneously evolved, which condense in the receiver into magnificent yellow needles. The quantity of kinone thus obtained corresponds to the amount of benzidine employed,

The transformation of aniline into kinone very naturally suggested the idea of examining the behaviour of these two bodies with one another. The action of kinone upon aniline is represented by the following equation:—

The study of this reaction has induced Dr. Hofmann to repeat an experiment mentioned by M. Hesse in his beautiful researches on the kinone group\*. By submitting aniline to the action of chloranile (tetrachlorkinone), M. Hesse obtained a compound crystallizing in reddishbrown scales, represented by the formula

$$C_{43} H_{31} Cl_4 O_4 N_5 = \begin{pmatrix} C_6 H_5 \end{pmatrix}_5 \\ (C_6 Cl_2 O_2)''_2 \\ H_6 \end{pmatrix} N_5.$$

A somewhat complicated expression which Dr. Hofmann cannot confirm. In studying the action of chloranile upon aniline, were observed all the phenomena described by M. Hesse; the compound formed had all the properties which he assigns to it, but was found on analysis to contain about 2 per cent. of carbon less than he had observed. The substance examined contained

$$C_{18} H_{19} Cl_{9} N_{9} O_{9} = (C_{6} Cl_{2} O_{9})^{"_{9}} \begin{cases} N_{9}. \end{cases}$$

The is the formula of the kinone derivative with two atoms of hydrogen replaced by chlorine. The action of chloranile on aniline is therefore, in a measure, analogous to that of kinone.

The formula proposed to be substituted for that of M. Hesse is supported by the result obtained in studying the deportment of chloranile under the influence of ammonia. Toluidine furnishes, both with kinone and chloranile, analogous compounds. The higher percentage of carbon observed by M. Hesse may possibly find a satisfactory explanation in the contamination with toluidine of the aniline which has served for his experiments. Commercial aniline invariably contains more or less toluidine.

The two next communications from Dr. Hofmann relating to the continuation of his researches in colouring matters derived from coal tar are of great practical importance and scientific interest. They will appear in full in the forthcoming number of Proceedings; we shall, therefore deal with them as briefly as possible in this place :—I. "On Aniline-yellow." By A. W. Hofmann, LL.D., F.R.S.—In a short paper previously submitted to the Royal Society the author described a few experiments on the remarkable new colouring matters derived from aniline, which of late have attracted such general attention. This paper had more particular reference to aniline-crimson, the industrial production of which, in the hands of Mr. E. Nicholson, has reached so high a degree of perfection that the analysis of this compound and of its numerous salts presented no serious difficulty. But the problem was not solved by establishing the formula of rosaniline and its salts: by far the more important obstacles remained to be conquered, the molecular constitution of rosaniline, on which at that time Dr. Hofmann had not

even been able to offer a hypothesis, and the genesis of this well-defined triamine from aniline had still to be traced. Since that time considerable progress has been made towards the solution of this problem. Some of the observations already submitted to the Royal Society will doubtless help to untie this knot. Nevertheless, many doubtful points still remain to be cleared up, and it was found desirable, for the better elucidation of the subject, to investigate simultaneously several of the other artificial organic colouring matters, in order to trace if possible analogies of composition and constitution in these substances, which, it was permitted to hope, would throw some light upon the principal subject of the inquiry. Dr. Hofmann proceeds first to give an account of this series of experiments with the description of yellow colouring matter which is obtained as a secondary production in the manufacture of rosaniline. "It is well known that, even in the most successful operation, and whatever the process of preparation may be, the rosaniline produced is only a percentage of the aniline employed. Together with the crimson-colour a large proportion of a resinous substance of feebly basic properties is formed, the generally ill-defined characters of which have hitherto baffled all attempts at a thorough investigation. This mixture contains nevertheless several individual compounds, which may be extracted with boiling water, and subsequently separated by treatment with reagents. Mr. E. C. Nicholson has thus isolated a magnificent yellow colouring matter. Considerable quantities of this interesting body Mr. Nicholson, with his usual liberality, has placed at my disposal, for which my best thanks are due to him. The yellow colouring matter, for which, on account of the splendid golden-yellow tint it imparts to wool and silk, and in order to record its origin, I propose the name of chrysaniline, presents itself in the form of a finely divided yellow powder, closely resembling freshly precipitated chromate of lead, perfectly uncrystalline, scarcely soluble in water, which it just colours, easily soluble in alcohol and in ether. This compound is a welldefined organic base, which forms with the acids two series of crystallized saline compounds. The most characteristic salts of chrysaniline are the nitrates, more especially the mononitrate, which is difficultly soluble in water, and crystallizes with facility. It was from this compound, purified by half-a-dozen crystallizations, that I have prepared the chrysaniline for analysis. An aqueous solution of the pure nitrate decomposed with ammonia yields the chrysaniline in a state of perfect purity. The analysis of this substance, dried at 100°, has furnished results which may be translated into the formula

C<sub>20</sub> H<sub>17</sub> N<sub>3</sub>.

This expression is corroborated by the examination of several salts, more especially the beautiful compound which this base produces with hydrochloric acid."

Dr. Hofmann next deals with the hydrochlorate, the nitrates, and the sulphate of this body. The composition of chrysaniline places this substance in immediate juxtaposition with rosaniline and leucaniline. These three triamines simply differ by the amount of hydrogen which they contain.

Chrysaniline is monacid or diacid; rosaniline monacid or triacid, but with essentially monacid predilections; leucaniline forms exclusively triatomic compounds. The formula of chrysaniline suggests the possibility of transforming this substance into rosaniline and leucaniline, or of producing chrysaniline from rosaniline or leucaniline. Up to the present moment this transformation has not been experimentally accomplished. The constitution and genesis of chrysaniline remain to be made out. Rosaniline, it will be remembered, forms, in addition to its ordinary monatomic compounds, a series of triatomic salts, which are more soluble and comparatively colourless. Dr. Hofmann has failed in his endeavours to prepare similar compounds with the triphenylic derivative of rosaniline. After referring to the action of reducing agents upon triphenylic rosaniline, the transformation of aniline-red into aniline-blue is next dealt with. "A lively imagination might feel tempted to speculate on the relation between colour and composition; but there are other questions claiming more immediately the attention of the experimentalist. Up to the present moment chemists were unacquainted with a method of phenylation. The chloride, bromide, and iodide of the phenyl-series have been but imperfectly studied; but we are

sufficiently acquainted with them to know that they are far from possessing the plastic character of the corresponding compounds of the methyl and ethyl-series, which confers such value upon these substances as agents of research. We are unable to substitute phenyl for hydrogen by processes borrowed from the experience gathered in experimenting with the ordinary alcohols. Diphenylamine and triphenylamine are substances existing at present only in the conception of the chemist. It was reserved for the peculiar, almost instinctive, mode of experimenting belonging to industry to fill up this blank." The transformation of rosaniline into aniline-blue suggests other questions. Does it simply involve an interchange between the hydrogen and phenyl atoms, or does the rosaniline molecule lose ammonia, which is replaced by aniline? Dr. Hofmann at present is unable to answer this question, but records the following experiments as materials towards the solution of the problem. After referring to methylic, ethylic, and amylic derivatives of rosaniline, Dr. Hofmann remarks:— "The facts elicited by the study of the action of iodide of ethyl upon rosaniline open a new field of research, which promises a harvest of results. The question very naturally suggests itself, whether the substitution for hydrogen in rosaniline of radicals other than methyl, ethyl, and amyl, may not possibly give rise to colours differing from blue? and whether chemistry may not ultimately teach us systematically to build up colouring molecules, the particular tint of which we may predict with the same certainty with which we at present anticipate the boiling-point and other physical properties of the compounds of our theoretical conceptions? This idea appears to have floated in the mind of M. E. Kopp when, with remarkable sagacity, he concluded his paper on aniline-red\* in the following terms :- 'The hydrogen of this substance being replaceable also by methyl, ethyl, and amyl, &c., we may anticipate the existence of a numerous series of compounds, all belonging to the same type, and which might constitute colouring matters either red, or violet, or blue. Conceptions which only two years ago appeared little more than a scientific dream are now in the very act of accomplishment. Dr. Hofmann proposes to continue these researches, and intends in a later communication to submit to the Royal Society the results obtained in the study of two other colouring matters derived from rosaniline-viz., aniline-green and anilineviolet."

II. "On Aniline-blue." By A. W. Hofmann, LL.D., F.R.S .-- Among the several stages which mark the development of the industry of coal-tar colours, the discovery of the transformation of aniline-red into aniline-blue will always hold a prominent position. This transition, for the first time observed by MM. Girard and De Laire, two young French chemists of M. Pelouze's Laboratory, and subsequently matured by MM. Persoz, De Laynes, and Salvétat, has become the foundation of an enormous industrial production, which, having received a powerful impulse by MM. Renard Brothers and France in France, and more recently by Messrs. Simpson, Maule, and Nicholson in this country, has rapidly attained to proportions of The tro aniline-red into aniline-blue is accomplished by a process of great simplicity, and consists, briefly expressed, in the treatment at a high temperature of resaniline with an excess of aniline. The mode of this treatment is by no means indifferent. Rosaniline itself cannot in this manner conveniently be converted into the blue colouring matter; the transformation is, however, easily accomplished by heating rosaniline salts with aniline, or, vice versa, rosaniline with salts of aniline. Again, the nature of the acids with which the bases are combined is by no means without influence upon the result of the operation; manufacturers give a decided preference to organic acids, such as acetic or benzoic acids. MM. Girard and De Laire, whose names are so intimately associated with the development of the new colour industry, have pointed out that the passage from red to blue is attended by an evolution of torrents of ammonia; and Mr. Nicholson, who combines the genius of the manufacturer with the habits of the scientific inquirer, has ascertained that the blue colouring matter is invariably a saline compound of a base itself colourless, like rosaniline. But the relations between the two colourless bases, and consequently the nature of the reaction by which rosaniline is converted into the blue colouring matter, had hitherto remained unknown. It is the elucidation of this question which Dr. Hof-

mann has undertaken, having received a supply of the chloride from Mr. Nicholson. After describing the hydrochlorate, Dr. Hofmann remarks :- "The separation of the base from the hydrochlorate presents no difficulty. This salt dissolves in alcoholic ammonia, giving rise to a wine-yellow solu-tion. This liquid contains the base in a free state, together with chloride of ammonium. On ebullition the blue colour reappears, the salt being reproduced with evolution of ammonia. Addition of water, on the other hand, produces a white or greyish precipitate, consisting of triphenylic rosaniline. The best mode of procuring this compound in a state fit for analysis is to pour the concentrated solution of the hydrochlorate in ammoniacal alcohol into water, when the base separates as a curdy mass, which soon collects upon the surface of the liquid. During the process of washing, and especially of drying, even in vacuo, the greyish powder generally assumes a blue tint. The vacuum-dry substance, when exposed to 100°, assumes a deep brown colour, which it retains on cooling; at 100° it slightly fuses, but does not change weight. Analysis assigns to this base the composition which corresponds to that of the hydrochlorate previously examined—namely,

C<sub>38</sub> H<sub>33</sub> N<sub>5</sub> O=C<sub>30</sub> H<sub>10</sub> (C<sub>6</sub> H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub> N<sub>3</sub>, H<sub>2</sub> O.

Triphenylic rosaniline is thus seen to separate from its saline combinations in the state of hydrate, exactly like rosaniline itself. I have endeavoured to obtain further confirmation of these results by the analysis of several salts of tryphenylic rosaniline. The following salts were submitted to analysis:—

 $\begin{array}{c} Hydrobromate,\\ C_{58}\,H_{59}\,N_3\;Br=C_{50}\,H_{16}\,(C_6\,H_5)_3,\,N_5,\,HBr,\\ Hydriodate,\\ C_{38}\,H_{39}\,N_3\;I=C_{20}\,H_{16}\,(C_6\,H_5)_3\,N_3,\,HI,\\ Nitrate,\\ C_{38}\,H_{59}\,N_4\,O_3=C_{20}\,H_{16}\,(C_6\,H_5)_3\,N_3,\,HNO_3,\\ Sulphate,\\ C_{76}\,H_{04}\,N_6\,SO_4=\frac{C_{50}\,H_{16}\,(C_6\,H_5)_3\,N_3\,)\,H\,}{C_{20}\,H_{16}\,(C_6\,H_5)_3\,N_3\,)\,H\,}\,SO_4. \end{array}$ 

Geological Society, Nov. 18. Professor A. C. Ramsay, President, in the chair. Charles Tylor, Esq., F.L.S., was elected a Fellow.—The following communications were read:-1. "On the Fossil Corals of the West Indies." Part II. By P. Martin Duncan, M.B. This communication embodied the second part of the author's researches on the Fossil Corals of the West Indies (the first part having been read before the Society last session), and consisted chiefly of a description of corals returned to the Society's Museum by Mr. Lonsdale soon after the reading of the first part. Some portions of these descriptions were stated to have been taken from an unpublished MS. by Mr. Lonsdale, now in the Society's Library, with the permission of that gentleman, such quotations having been duly indicated. The predominance of simple fossil corals in San Domingo, and their complete absence in Antigua, were pointed out; and it was remarked that the same kind of distribution occurs at the present day, pedunculated compound forms being very common around the northern Antilles, but rare around the north-eastern, although the corals are mostly of different genera to those found in the fossil state. The author concluded with some remarks on the physical conditions of the Miocene period in the West Indies, observing that the Nivaje shales and associated deposits are the remains of an ancient barrier-reef, and giving an analytical table of the affinities of the species, in which it was shown that the Pacific and East Indian element greatly preponderated. 2. "Notes to accompany some Fossils from Japan." By Captain Bullock. Communicated by Sir R. I. Murchison, K.C.B., F.R.S. There having been no geologist attached to the late surveying expedition of H.M.S. *Dove*, the commander of that vessel endeavoured to repair the consequent loss to science, so far as his professional duties would allow, by collecting fossils, and by recording their localities and the circumstances under which they were found. The specimens were presented to the Geological Society through Sir R. I. Murchison; and this paper contained all the information respecting their occurrence which Captain Bullock had been enabled to obtain. 3. "On some Miocene Mollusca from Mount Séla, in the Island of Java." By H. M. Jenkins, Esq., F.G.S. With a Description of a new Coral from the same locality, and a Note on the Scindian Fossil Corals; by P. Martin Duncan, M.B., F.G.S. A short notice of the scanty literature of Javan geology having been given, the author described briefly the geological and physical features of the Mount-Séla district, and made some general observations on, and gave descriptions of, the

fossils which were the subject of the paper, and which had been sent to England by M. Corn. de Groot. Of sixteen determinable species, only three (or nineteen per cent.) are now known to exist, the remainder being new species; but Mr. Jenkins showed that the fossils were probably more recent than this small percentage of living species would appear to indicate, in consequence of there having occurred an emigration eastwards of at least a part of the Southern- and Middle-European Miocene and Eocene fauna. This emigration was proved by the identity of many species which occur fossil in the European Miocene, and now exist in the Eastern seas, and also by certain genera being represented in that formation and the Eccene, and confined in the living state to the Indo-Pacific region. One of the Javan species being closely related to Vicarya Verneuilii from Scinde, the author was induced to investigate the claims of the Nummulitic formation of India to be considered altogether of Eocene date; and he inferred that there was a probability of some of the beds belonging to a less remote period. This inference was supported by Dr. Duncan in a note upon the Scindian fossil Corals, many of which (unnamed by M. Haime) were shown to have Miocene and recent, but not Eocene affinities. Mr. Jenkins next referred to the diminutive character of many of these Javan fossils, and then reviewed the opinions of former writers upon the Tertiary formation of that island, coming to the conclusion that the Mount-Séla shells were probably of late Miocene date, and that the plants described by Dr. Goeppert were probably newer than the Eocene. The fossil Coral from Mount Séla was shown by Dr. Duncan in a note to this paper to be allied to Astrewa quadrangularis, Edwards and Haime, the habitat of which is unknown.—The following donations to the Society's Museum were exhibited :- A. Wollaston's Reflecting Goniometer, presented by L. Horner, Esq., F.R.S., V.P.G.S. A collection of rock-specimens from the region of the forty-ninth parallel of latitude, presented by H. Bauerman, Esq., F.G.S.

Philological, Nov. 21. Professor Key, Vice-President, in the chair. Henry Bradshaw, Esq., Fellow of King's College, Cambridge; Dr. Sharp, Principal of the College, Huddersfield; and J. C. Brown, Esq., late of the Indian Civil Service—were elected Members of the Society .- A MEMORIAL to the University of Cambridge, praying for the establishment of a professorship of Sanskrit there, was adopted by the meeting. Mr. H. T. Parker of Ladbrooke Villas-an American gentleman residing here-presented to the Society a volume of especial interest to those concerned in the Society's Proposed New English Dictionary—namely, a folio volume containing Burton's "Anatomy of Melancholy," and Sir Matthew Hales's "Pleas of the Crown," marked by Samuel Johnson for his dictionary-clerks to copy extracts from. No mistake is there as to the words the old man wanted -three heavy scores in the fair broad margin, and the initial of the word with a dash through it, call the clerk's attention to the passage; while a tick at the beginning and end of it and a line under the word show of what extent the passage is to be, and what the catchword is. A comparison of the passages scored with the dictionary shows the great lexicographer must have had several extracts under his eye for many of his words, and used the one or two which he thought the best. The thanks of the meeting were voted to Mr. Parker for his very valuable and interesting present. The paper read was "On the English Genitive," by Mr. Serjeant Manning, Q.C. The paper being a complete treatise, the ninth chapter only was read, in which the Serjeant endeavoured to refute Johnson's theory that our modern English possessive 's is the abbreviation of the Anglo-Saxon genitive -es. Basing his argument on the use of his in the later MS. of Layamon (about 1300 A.D.), printed by Sir F. Madden, the writer showed that his was used for both numbers and all genders. He contended that this his was not the possessive of he, but an autocthonous product of English soil—though paralleled by German and other nations' use of its equivalent-and that there was no contradiction in applying it to feminines and plurals. The paper was hotly opposed by the Early English and comparative scholars present. The former urged that the use of the genitival es or is in many nouns was continuous till 's took their place, and that the autocthonous his arose from ignorant scribes not understanding that the is was the genitival ending, and writing it in most manuscripts apart from the noun. Then came some semi-clever scribes and put on the h, thinking the is was a misspelling of the possessive of he. The comparative philologist, of

<sup>·</sup> Ann. de Chim. et de Phys. [3] lxii. 230.

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course, said that there was no his in Sanskrit or Greek, Latin, &c., that the English genitival s had the same origin as the same s in other languages, and was prepositional. Nevertheless, as the paper contained a historical review of the theories held in England on the subject and the arguments in support of them, together with a notice of some uses of the English genitive generally unremarked, a hope was expressed that the paper might be printed, though it was too long for the Society's Transactions.

Numismatic Society. Nov. 19. W. S. W. Vaux, Esq., President, in the chair. The Rev. J. H. Marsden, B.D., and E. K. Lidderdale, Esq., were duly elected Members of the Society.— THE Rev. J. Pollexfen exhibited a small brass coin, supposed to be of Avitus; also a coin of Carausius, with the S's on the obverse le-gend turned the wrong way; and a penny of Charles, of the same type and legend as those of James, which are so common.—The Rev. A. Pownall exhibited a coin of Ethelstan, found in the parish of Bulwich, Northamptonshire.-Mr. Vaux exhibited a cast of a medal of John Kendal, with the title "Turco-peilerius," and the date 1480; also a cast of a silver Persian tetradrachm, with the type of the galley, the peculiarity consisting in the fact that the galley has a sail.-Mr. Madden read a communication from W. Airy, Esq., relative to a find of coins in the Isle of Wight; also from W. Buttery, Esq., on a leaden medal found in 1856 in the hands of a skeleton in Milford Church, Hants.—Mr. Madden read a paper, communicated by Dr. Rapp of Bonn, "On a coin of Nemausus, on which Marcus Vipsanius Agrippa is represented with a beard."-Mr. Vaux read a paper, communicated by E. Thomas, Esq., "On the Bactrian Alphabet," in which he claimed for some of the characters which occur upon the coins an Indian rather than a Phœnician origin.

Society of Arts, Nov. 25. Samuel Gregson, Esq., M.P., in the chair.—THE paper read was "On the Australian Colonies, their Condition, Resources, and Prospects," by Sir Charles Nicholson, Bart. After touching on the foundation and early history of these colonies, the author traced their rapid progress up to the present time, contrasting the condition of Australia in January 1788, when the first settlers arrived there, with that at the present time. A group of men, women, and children were then encamped on the shores of a wide bay, hemmed in by the margin of a sombre forest. Despair, repentance, hope, must alternately have agitated the breasts of many seated on that lonely strand; but in seventy-five short years the 1100 people had grown into a community of 1,300,000 souls. The weary voyage which then occupied seven or eight months could now be accomplished in as many weeks. The morass surrounding the shores of Botany Bay, on the margin of which for a few days they first encamped, was now within the sound and sight of a splendid city, mustering 100,000 inhabitants, and containing within its precincts many of the attributes of a rich and luxurious capital. It was a singular fact that the first portion of land cleared from the indigenous timber was that selected sixty years afterwards as the sight of a magnificent pile of buildings for the first university established in Australia. It seemed a striking and a happy coincidence that the supply of the material element for the sustenance of the physical body should thus become the antetype of that higher provision for the intellectual wants and moral requirements of the race that was so soon to follow. The convict question was referred to-a hope being expressed that the imperial government would so mould its policy as not needlessly to provoke a feeling of hostility and determined resistance on almost the only single question in which any possible difference can arise between England and her southern dependencies. In drawing attention to the immense extent of country included in these colonies, the author referred to the varied character of the climate, and consequently the immense variety of products. In intertropical Australia, cotton, sugar, rice, and all the ordinary fruits and vegetable productions of India, tropical Africa, and America, might be readily raised. In the regions immediately to the south, and with the climate of Morocco and Spain, the plantain, vine, orange, pomegranate, and a great variety of fruits indigenous to China would thrive luxuriantly, whilst still further to the south wheat and all the cereals of Central Europe found appropriate habitats. Few portions of the earth were more favourably situated. The lesser and northern half was within the torrid zone, the southern and larger section within the temperate zone. Although

stretching eleven miles within the tropics, the climate was tempered by the insular character of the land, and was most healthy, malarious fevers The author described the being unknown. geographical and geological character of the country, and then proceeded to notice its various animal, vegetable, and mineral productions. The principal exports were gold, and, to a limited extent, silver and antimony, copper and coal. Iron ore, which exists in unlimited quantities, associated with coal, was at the present moment valueless from the cost of labour necessarily incurred in its production. Wool, hides, tallow, bark for tanning, copper, and coal, constitute, with the pre-cious metal, the great exports. Amongst products that may hereafter be raised, and in relation to which the most sanguine expectations were formed, might be mentioned cotton. The plant itself would grow with amazing rapidity, and, from the absence of frosts in the northern parts of Queensland, would become perennial, and was now looked forward to as likely to be a profitable investment of both labour and capital. So great was the anxiety to encourage its cultivation, in both New South Wales and Queensland, that the government of each of these colonies has offered bounties for its production. The first consignment that reached England a few weeks ago netted 2s. 6d. per lb., which, with the bounty of 10d. per lb., would yield to the producer a rate equal to 3s. 4d. per lb. Other inducements, in the shape of free grants of land, were also held out, with the view o fstimulating the enterprise. There could be no question that the Australian colonies are capable of producing this great staple to any extent if they can command the requisite amount of labour. After speaking of the healthy character of these colonies as evidenced by the vital statistics, the author pointed out the advantages to the emigrant, and indicated the qualifications requisite to ensure success.

Royal Institute of British Architects. Nov. 16. Mr. Thos. L. Donaldson, President, in the chair.— AFTER the transactions of the preliminary business, the President rend a brief obituary notice of Mr. J. B. Bunning, late architect to the Corporation of London, of whom the learned President spoke as having, in the many works in the city with which his name was associated, combined the higher branches of architectural skill with utility in the designs he carried out. The President also took occasion to refer to the recent decease of Mr. William Cubitt as one of the heads of that class with whom, as architects, they were so intimately associated-viz., the builders. Allusions were made as to the great works carried out by him, in conjunction with his brother Thomas, at Pimlico, and by himself personally in Belgravia and in the Isle of Dogs, where he has left behind him, in the palatial residences of Eaton Place, and in the less pretentious buildings of Cubitt's Town, monuments of individual enterprise which, for extent and utilitarian character, have rarely, if ever, been excelled;—to the judicious exercise of that spirit of enterprise Mr. Cubitt's great success in life was attributable .- Mr. Sydney Smirke, R.A., then read a paper entitled "Some Account of the Professional Life and Character of the late Professor C. R. Cockerell, R.A., Fellow and late President R.I.B.A." Mr. Smirke commenced his observations by remarking that he felt flattered by the invitation to read a memoir of their departed colleague to the Institute; and he could not apply himself to a more grateful subject. Of the outlines of his life he had the most ample materials; but to fill up the details required an abler pencil than his own. All he could attempt to do was to refer to some of the salient features of his character, and to point to some of the more striking works of this great artist and ornament of the profession; and, in this respect, the biography of their late friend furnished a guide both for themselves and those whom they wished to direct. The late Mr. Charles Robert Cockerell was the second son of Mr. Samuel Pepys Cockerell, an eminent member of the profession. The subject of this memoir was born in the year 1788. Up to the age of fourteen he was educated in a private school, at which period he entered the Westminster School, where he remained till he attained the age of seventeen, when he entered his father's office, to engage in the study and practice of architecture. During the four or five years that he remained as a pupil with his father, he displayed his ability as an accomplished draughtsman. In early life Mr. Cockerell was introduced to his (Mr. Smirke's) brother, Sir Robert Smirke; and the closest intimacy existed between them up to the time of Mr. Cockerell's death. In 1809 Mr. Cockerell, then about twentyone years of age, was associated with Sir Robert

Smirke in the erection of a new theatre at Covent Garden; and in those days it was regarded as a great feat to get that work completed within a period of ten months. In 1810 Mr. Cockerell commenced his professional studies on the Continent, these were attended with the most brilliant results. His accomplished mind and lively and engaging manners gained him many friends; but he chiefly sought the friendship of fellow-labourers of congenial tastes and pursuits in the cultivation of classic art. During a period of eight years Mr. Cockerell was absent from England, during which time he twice thoroughly explored Greece, including the islands so glorious in history and art; and in 1817 he returned home to receive the congratulations of his many friends. It was at this period that Mr. Cockerell started on the path of his professional life. Mr. Smirke then proceeded to enumerate some of the principal works on which the talents of Mr. Cockerell were bestowed, and remarked that probably his highest distinction and European reputation were due to his archeological labours; but he would first regard him in his character as an architect. Antiquarian researches occupied a considerable portion of his early life, and for some years after his return to England it was with him a "labour of love" to work out the results of those researches. Among his earlier works were the designs for the Literary and Philosophical Institution at Bristol, a drawing of which was exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1821, this was marked by the purity of detail which distinguished all his subsequent works. He was next engaged in the erection of a mansion for the late Marquis of Lansdowne at Bowood; and, at the time of the formation of Regent Street, an opportunity was afforded for the display of his talents in street architecture, exemplified by Hanover Chapel, which attracted much attention for originality of style, the National Mausoleum in Edinburgh, and the building for the Westminster Institution in the Strand. Mr. Cockerell's appointment as surveyor to the Bank of England opened out to him a wider sphere. The dividend office in that establishment was one of his most happy conceptions, though, in obedience to the law of change, the whole has since been obliterated. His next works were the London and Westminster Fire Office and the Sun Fire Office, the former of which was deserving of study, as it was evident that a great deal of care was bestowed upon it by the architect. The death of Mr. Elmes in 1851 led to Mr. Cockerell's appointment to complete the St. George's Hall at Liverpool. The exterior of that structure had been mainly completed by Mr. Elmes, but the finishing of the interior was the work of Mr. Cockerell, which occupied his anxious attention for four or five years-a work which was characterized by the greatest artistic elegance; and they saw in the tympanum of that building, designed by Mr. Cockerell, an instance of his refined taste in the sister art of sculpture. Speaking of the honours which attended the course of Mr. Cockerell, it was stated that, in 1829, he was elected an associate of the Royal Academy; in 1833, he succeeded the late Sir John Soane as architect to the Bank of England; in 1836, he was elected a full member of the Royal Academy; and in 1840, was appointed Professor of Architecture in that institution, which office he held till the year 1857, greatly to the benefit of his pupils. As president of this Institute in 1860-1, he was the first to receive the honour of the award of her Majesty's gold medal; and his name would ever be held on its records as one of its most honoured and respected members. His great merits were also recognised on the Continent. He was a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour of France, a member of St. Luke's at Rome, and a member of the Royal Academies of Dresden, Vienna, and Denmark. Mr. Smirke particularly invited the attention of the members to the admirable and valuable legacy of beautiful drawings which Mr. Cockerell had left behind him, and now presented to their view. A critical notice of those drawings, he said, would be out of place, as he was not addressing tyros, to whom the beauty of those works required to be explained. He trusted that an exhibition of such artistic excellence would have a lasting effect on the studies of the rising members of the profession. In those drawings they combined the works of the archæologist and the architect. In adverting to the services which Mr. Cockerell had rendered to the former science, Mr. Smirke alluded to his discoveries of Ægeanic sculptures in 1841, without any aid from the Government, at a time when the disturbed state of Greece made such a pursuit hazardous. That this country had failed to be the possessor of those treasures of ancient art was, he said, to be deplored, and he explained

the circumstances under which they had passed into the hands of a foreign country. Having spoken at length of Mr. Cockerell's researches in Sicily, Syracuse, Greece, and Italy, his visit to the seven churches of Asia Minor, and the admirable drawings which illustrated those researches, together with his great work on the Temples of Ægina and Phigaleia; having also sketched the merits of Mr. Cockerell as a writerthe same spirit of refinement characterizing alike his writings and his drawings-Mr. Smirke concluded by remarking that, if occasion required it, he could open the penetralia of Mr. Cockerell's private life, and could speak of his universal kindness of disposition, the warmth and enduring character of his friendships, and the generosity of his heart; but panegyric on such a subject was unnecessary, as those who were best acquainted with him could most appreciate those qualities of mind and heart which gained for him a larger sphere of friendships than usually fell to the lot of man.

Institution of Civil Engineers. Nov. 17. J. R. McLean, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—The paper read was on the "Duty of the Cornish Pumping Engines," by Mr. W. Morshead, junior. It appeared from a tabular statement prepared by the proprietor of McLean's Engine Reporter, for the years 1841 to 1860 inclusive, that the average duty of these engines had fallen off from 68 millions in 1844 to 52 millions in 1860, or 25 per cent.; also that less interest was now felt in the performance of these engines, as, while fifty were reported in 1841, only fifteen were reported in 1858 and twenty-five in 1860. Although the nominal or reported duty showed this marked diminution, it was was not asserted that there had been an actual falling off to the extent thus indicated; for the duty paper did not take into account the quality of the coal, which was certainly inferior to that used twenty years ago; besides which the present practice of sinking the engine shaft, for the whole, or part of its depth, in an inclined direction upon the course of the lode, must have tended to increase the friction of the pitwork; and the mines were also deeper than formerly. Nor was expansion of steam adopted to so great an extent now as it was some years ago; it was then carried further than was compatible with safety, as was evidenced by the repeated breakages of the main rod, the piston rod, and the other principal parts of the engine. But, after allowing for all these legitimate causes of the falling off of duty, it was thought that the average duty of the county is still at least ten millions below what it should be. The author next examined the causes of this decline, and then discussed the means by which it might be remedied. The primary cause he believed to be the indifference of the mine proprietors to the performances of the engines. So many accidents attended the use of high steam, cut off at an early part of the stroke, that economy of fuel came to be regarded as synonymous with repeated breakages; but it was quite possible to raise the duty considerably above the present average without resorting to an undue rate of expansion. This might be accomplished by a more perfect and extended system of reporting the engines, and by a new form of duty paper embracing the following additional items:—First, that the load upon the piston should be taken from an indicator diagram, and from the load thus ascertained the duty should be computed, the difference between the load upon the piston and the weight of water actually lifted, that is the loss by the friction of the pitwork, &c., being placed in a separate column. Secondly, that the part of the stroke at which the steam was cut off, as well as the vacuum obtained, should be stated opposite each engine. Thirdly, that a notice of the quality of the coal used, as far as it could be ascertained, should be added. And lastly, that the engines should be separated into two classes, those which might reasonably be expected to give a good duty, and those which, from the time they had been at work, their small size, or other causes, could not fairly compete with the former. By taking the load upon the piston from an indicator diagram, a fair estimate of the work actually done by the engine could be formed, while, by placing the difference between the load upon the piston and the weight of water actually lifted in a separate column, encouragement was offered for improvement in the construction and fixing of the pitwork. At present only about one-tenth of the engines at work in Devon and Cornwall appeared in the monthly reports. If mine proprietors would co-operate in supporting a good form of duty paper, there was little doubt but that there would be a rapid and marked improvement in the duty of the Cornish engines.

Statistical Society, Nov. 17. Col. W. H. Sykes, M.P., President, in the chair. The following gentlemen were elected Fellows of the Society-viz., J. W. Bone, Esq., B.A., and J. W. Maclure, Esq. -Mr. Purdy read a paper "On the Industrial Progress of Victoria as connected with its Gold Mining," by H. S. Chapman of Melbourne. The object of the paper was to show that, although the production of gold in this colony had greatly fallen off since 1856, yet a marked development of the resources of Victoria had nevertheless taken place. In 1856 the gold produced amounted to 2,986,000 ozs.; at each subsequent year it declined; in 1862 it was only 1,712,000 ozs.; and for the present year Mr. Chapman estimated the yield at 1,500,000 to 1,600,000 ozs. The loss in the value produced in 1862, as compared with 1856, was upwards of £5,000,000. The rival gold-fields of New South Wales and New Zealand had attracted, and continued to attract, a considerable number of persons from Victoria. In 1856 the crop of wheat grown in the colony was 1,148,000 bushels; in 1862 it was about 4,150,000. During the same time oats had increased from 615,000 to 2,633,000 bushels. The cultivation of the vine had increased. In 1859 there were 993,000 grape vines; in 1862 there were 3,818,000. The growth of tobacco had been encouraged. In 1862 there were 220 acres under cultivation. Machinery, railway and private carriages are now extensively made in Victoria; sugar-refining is also carried on in the colony, as well as many other branches of manufacture, for which a few years since the inhabitants had to depend upon importations. The banking statistics of the colony were then discussed. During the last six years the bank deposits had increased 34 per cent.; the accommodation given to the public had increased from £6,596,000 to £10,005,000, or more than 50 per cent. Mr. Chapman remarked that, "whilst the liabilities of all the banks have only increased half-a-million, the assets have increased a million and a half, and, whilst they one and all continue to pay good dividendsgenerally 10 per cent.—their reserve funds have increased about 20 per cent." The most striking feature in the industrial condition of Victoria has been the decrease in the production of gold and the substitution of other enterprises.

## MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY, November 30th.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY, at 3.—5, New Burlington Street, W.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.—Burlington House. Anniversary.

INSTITUTE OF ACTUARIES, at 7.—Report "On the Recent Proceedings of the International Statistical Congress at its Meeting at Berlin."

LONDON INSTITUTION, at 7.—Finsbury Circus. "On English Costumes:" Rev. H. Christmas, F.R.S.

Costumes: Rev. H. Christmas, F.R.S.

MEDICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.—32A, George Street, Hanover Square.

"Lettsomian Lectures:" C. H. F. Routh, M.D.

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1st.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—4. St. Martin's Place, Trafalgar Square. "The Negro; his Place in Nature:" Dr. Hunt, F.S.A., President A.S.L. Adjourned Discussion.

Institution of Civil Engineers, at 8.—25, Great George Street, Westminster. Renewed Discussion upon Mr. Morshead's Paper on "Duty of the Cornish Pumping-Engines." And, if time permits, the following Paper will be read:—
"Lambeth Bridge:" Mr. Peter William Barlow, F.R.S., M.Inst.C.E.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2nd.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—John Street, Adelphi. "On Magneto-Electricity, and its application to Lighthouse Purposes:" F. H. Holmes, Esq.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—Somerset House. 1. "On the Correlation of the Oligocene Deposits of Belgium, Germany, and Southern England:" Herr Adolf von Koenew. Communicated by F. E. Edwards, Esq., F.G.S. 2, "On the Liassic Strata of the Neighbourhood of Belfast:" Ralph Tate, Esq., F.G.S. 3. "On Palæozoic Strata in the Vicinity of the Bosphorus:" W. R. Swan, Communicated by Sir R. I. Murchison, K.C.B., F.R.S.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3rd.

LONDON INSTITUTION, at 7.—Finsbury Circus. "On the Principles and Applications of Organic Chemistry:" J. A. Wanklyn, Esq., F.R.S.E.

ANTIQUARIES, at 8.—Somerset House.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—Burlington House. "Essential Oils:" Dr. Gladstone. "New mode of Preparing Zinc Ethyl:" Drs. Frankland and Duppa.

LINNEAN SOCIETY, at 8.—Burlington House. FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4th.

ARCHEOLOGICAL, at 4.—1, Burlington Gardens.

PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.15.—Somerset House, 1. "Our Elder Brethren the Prisians, their Language and Literature as Illustrative of those of England." 2. "Traces of a Primary Root f'ng or fi' in the Indo-Teutonic Languages:" Rev. W. Barnes, B.D.

## ART.

## THE NEWLY ACQUIRED PICTURES IN THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

THE pictures lately acquired by the trustees of the National Gallery chiefly illustrate the early Flemish and Dutch Schools, and were nearly all produced towards the end of the fifteenth and the commencement of the sixteenth centuries. The greater number have been presented by her Majesty, in fulfilment of the wishes of the late Prince Consort, to whom they belonged. The interest attaching to them is almost entirely of a

special and antiquarian kind. It is desirable that a national gallery of pictures should be a history of the art of painting, as well as a collection of fine pictures. But, of the earliest efforts of particular schools, one or two examples of each should be amply sufficient. Art, properly speaking, is not present in the nascent efforts of any school, though it may be interesting to note the dawnings and foreshadowings of the yet unrisen glory. We are struck by a certain purity of colour, akin to that we find in illuminated missals, the presence of which may be accounted for by the painter's access to a good laboratory, and by the absence of all those qualities in his picture which subsequently made purity of hue so difficult of attainment. We find a flower curiously and beautifully imitated, the pattern on an embroidered robe copied with remarkable fidelity, a chair or a bench or a tree accurately and conscientiously presented on the canvas; but, after all, these objects are not in the highest sense truly and artfully represented, while they are but accessories to absurdly distorted images of saints, hideous presentments of our Lord, Holy Families confounded with popes and cardinals, and anachronisms of all kinds. The Pre-Raphaelite art, which of late years has called forth a genuine burst of enthusiasm in England and in Germany, is of the same period, or even somewhat earlier, than the one to which these German and Flemish works belong; but art in Italy was a century in advance of the Flemish School, and existed probably for two centuries before it was established in Germany and Holland. The newly acquired pictures have no flavour of the Pre-Raphaelite school, as represented by Giotto, by Fra Angelico, Ghirlandajo, and Masaccio; they are, however, undoubtedly very ugly and very old.

The bequest of the Prince Consort is still a valuable acquisition to our National Gallery. The influence of the Reformation in Germany and the Low Countries changed materially the direction which the arts were taking in following the lead of Italy. The change was not altogether a satisfactory one. The great religious struggles in Germany quenched the light of art, and the darkness of the sixteenth century is only broken by the genius of Albrecht Dürer. It required the transcendent powers of Rembrandt to invest Dutch art with any dignity in the downward direction it was taking after the Reformation; and the Flemish School, so distinguished in the fifteenth century, was barely represented in the sixteenth century by Antonio Moro, and by no means prefigured the light that was to blaze forth in the seventeenth century in the works of Rubens and his scholars. A small collection, therefore, of early German, Dutch, and Flemish pictures may be considered a desirable addition to a national gallery; but certainly only a small one. The purchase of quaint and ugly pictures has more than kept pace with present requirements. We should be sorry to see a large collection in Trafalgar Square of the hideous productions that are displayed in the Walraff Richartz Museum at Cologne; but of late the purchases for the Gallery have been made apparently with some such view,

have been made apparently with some such view, and with strong sympathies for this, so to speak, archæological art.

The Prince's bequest by no means represents all that has been done for us in this direction during the past year. The chief work in size, and perhaps also the most interesting of the new pictures, has been obtained by purchase. (By the way, it would add to the interest of the excellent catalogue prepared for visitors to the National Gallery if the price which has been given for each picture were added to the description of it.) It is a "Holy Family" by Lanini, a Milanese painter, who flourished about the latter half of the sixteenth century. There is much sweetness in the expressions of the Madonna and of the infant Christ, and the figure of the Magdalen is commended to our notice by her natural simplicity. The portrait of Pope Gregory the Great is introduced in the background, with that happy indifference to the absurdity of his presence there, so common to the ultramontane painters of the period. The composition differs in no respect from the conventional pattern laid down, and always accepted by the Roman Catholic Church. The subject may be seen treated in the same way in hundreds of pictures, better and worse. Each painter reproduced the common forms of composition that had come down to him, as being appropriately fitted for ecclesiastical purposes; and his individuality is to be marked rather in the component parts of his work than in his treatment of the whole. Thus we see but little variety in so many pictures of the "Annunciation," of the "Nativity," of "The Crucifixion," of the "Virgin Enthroned," &c., &c. At

a later period, when the religious sentiment had become weakened, and scriptural subjects were looked at more with reference to a pictorial treat-ment, the old forms were abandoned; but all that was good went with them, and the Gospel stories were made mere vehicles for effect and colour. These early pictures are, for the most part, pure in sentiment; and this purity is their one good quality, and goes far to rescue them from the indifference or contempt which would otherwise be

visited upon their ugly and often ludicrous forms.

A small picture of a "Madonna and Child," attributed to Hans Memling, is one of the royal bequests, and a welcome addition to the collection. The works of this remarkable painter are rare; and, although the Gallery possesses a more important example of his work ("The Virgin and Infant Christ Enthroned"), we are still without a picture that fairly represents his power. Perhaps no such work is accessible; and we must continue to associate this painter in our memory with those almost unique productions which he bequeathed to the Hospital of St. John at Bruges-the most excellent in the whole field of early Flemish art. Even the little picture now in question we should place first among the small collection of which it forms a part. Of other pictures belonging to the early Flemish School, we have three by Patinir, who flourished in the first half of the sixteenth century. One of these is "A Crucifixion," another represents "St. John in Patmos," and a third shows St. Christopher wading in an ocean which, although it bears on its bosom great ships of the period in which the picture was painted, only just covers the saint's toes. Then we have a small work by Margaret Van Eyck—" A Madonna and Child," some broidered tapestry in which is worthy of notice. An "Ecce Homo," surely hideous, by Roger Vander Weyden, who painted in the early half of the fifteenth century, and a "Mater Dolorosa," only less unpleasant than the former. This painter is said to have been a pupil of Van Eyck, and the Gallery already possessed a subject-picture by him. "A Crucifixion" and "A Magdalen" by Henrik de Bles, and a monk's head by Vandergoes, complete the list of Flemish pictures.

Of the early Dutch School there is a curious picture of the Holy Family at a fountain, with a landscape background, by Schoorel, who painted about the middle of the sixteenth century; and there is also a beautiful and delicate portrait of a young lady with light waving hair by the same artist. We can appreciate the conscientiousness of these old painters when we see how thoroughly they worked at portraiture. By this test we are now able to judge of the real value of their subjectpictures; and, in the present instance, although we care but little for this painter's "Holy Family as a representation of the fact it assumes to place before us, we are pretty sure that the painter of the portrait has not falsified wittingly the facts which were daily before his eyes, and that, in this picture, we gain a tolerably faithful notion of the domestic landscape of the century in which he lived. A "Madonna and Child" by Jan Mostert, a Dutchman of the sixteenth century, is chiefly to be noted for the beautiful drawing of the flowers amongst which they are seated, which truly sets forth the quality of the artist's mind-surely a good and gentle one. A "Madonna and Child' by Cornelius Engelberdeg, is the only other Dutch picture.

Of early German works there are several; but they afford little or no pleasure as works of art; most hard, crude, and unpleasant are they for the most part, and we care for little that was produced before the time of Albrecht Dürer. There are a "Presentation in the Temple" by the Master of the Lyversberg Passion, whoever he may have been, and two figures of St. Peter and St. Dorothy by the Master of Cologne, and three figures of St. Martha, St. Catherine, and St. John by Meister Stephan. There is also a small portrait by Sigismund Holbein. We have no picture in the Gallery, to our shame be it written, by the illustrious Hans Holbein, the greatest of German painters, who came, and lived, and worked among us, as did afterwards Handel, the greatest of German composers. One good example of Hans Holbein, or of Albrecht Dürer, whose works are, however, extremely scarce, would outweigh in value the whole collection of which we have been speaking; and we hope that before long our Gallery will contain a good specimen of the work of each of these great artists.

The few remaining pictures bequeathed by the Prince are early Italian works. There is a Tryptich by Justus of Padua, bearing the date of 1367; the centre compartment being the "Coronation of the Virgin," flanked by the

"Nativity" and "the Crucifixion." "Madonna and Child" by Pinturicchio is the only specimen in the Gallery by a painter little known in England, though his works are among the most remarkable productions of the Tuscan School; and for this we have to thank the late Prince Consort.

The "Agony in the Garden" by Giovanni Bellini we believe has been lately purchased. It bears the characteristic qualities of the master in its rich harmony of colour and fine tone. The sentiment of the sky, still bearing witness to the late presence of the sun, is a very solemn one; but the figures are ill-drawn, and the action of the story is wanting in dignity. We hope that the trustees will now make a pause in their purchases of early pictures, and turn once more to the later

### MR. FLATOU'S EXHIBITION.

AN interesting exhibition of pictures has been opened in the Haymarket by Mr. Flatou, one of the most noted dealers of the day. The collection contains specimens by many living artists of reputation, as well as by some of those who have lately passed away. Many of the works that have come into Mr. Flatou's possession are well known, having been previously exhibited in the Royal Academy and elsewhere. There is no disguise about the character of the exhibition, which is announced as the property of Mr. Flatou, and is clearly set forth as a commercial speculation. Besides the well-known favourite pictures by Frith, Creswick, Ansdell, Sidney Cooper, and others, there are pictures painted expressly for Mr. Flatou, which are now exhibited for the first time. Chief among these is an important work by Mr. T. Faed. The subject is "Reading the Bible," and the treatment of it bears the general aspect of this painter's compositions. The plan is so similar to that which marked his more famous picture, "From Dawn to Sunset," that for a moment we think we are standing before the same work. It is surely the same family party, without, as we must suppose, the same occupant of the bed in the corner. The present work displays even greater technical skill than its predecessor, and it may be taken altogether as one of Mr. Faed's best works. We might object that babies and very young children are more difficult to manage during a Scripture reading, if they are placed picturesquely about, than when they are better looked after; but these children are real prodigies, for they do not even turn their eyes to the door, where their little sister is just visible on her return from an errand, as we may suppose, and is there met by a brother with a can of milk (?). But the expression of the heads is generally very good, and there is probably no painter now living in England who could execute a subject of this class with more ability than Mr. Faed.

Among the other pictures we may mention—Mr. Frith's "Coming of Age;" an admirable example by Poole, called "The Wanderers;" an interesting early picture by Herbert, which will be remembered by some of the elder painters as having been exhibited in Suffolk Street, about the year 1835, under the name of "The Reprieve;" a clever sketch, by the late A. Solomon, of the Brighton Parade; and some good landscapes by Creswick, Vicat Cole, and other well-known artists.

## ART NOTES.

THE Queen gave Mr. Frith a fourth sitting on Saturday for his picture of the Prince of Wales's marriage. During the past week the Crown Prince and Princess of Prussia, the Princesses Helena, Louise, and Beatrice, and the Crown Prince of Denmark have also given him sittings.

THE private view of the Winter-Exhibition of Sketches by the Members of the Old Water-Colour

Society takes place to-day.

Four pen-and-ink drawings of Sens have been added to Mr. Hamerton's collection. One, of a bridge over the Yonne, is a suggestive subject for

a picture.

THE Moniteur contains an imperial decree respecting the late changes in the organization of the School of Fine Arts, which, since its foundation in 1819, "has gradually ceased to keep pace with the ideas and wants of the present time." All the privileges which are no longer in keeping with the "present liberal régime" are abrogated. The School will henceforth be under a director appointed every five years by the government. All the professors and officials will likewise henceforth be appointed and paid exclusively by the government. The director is to have 8000 francs, each professor 2400 francs, annually. The pupils

will have "obligatory classes" in history, æsthetics, archeology, perspective, and anatomy. Every quarter the professors have to report on the progress of their pupils to the ministry. The usual prize, the Prix de Rome, will henceforth only be given for four, not, as hitherto, for five, years; but the prizeman need no longer spend all his time in Rome, but may travel for two years. Engravers and lithographers will only get the prize for three years, two of which are to be spent at Rome. For the next five years Robert Fleury has been appointed director of the School.

## MUSIC.

MR. BALFE'S OPERA-THE NATIONAL CHORAL SOCIETY, &c.

A NEW opera by Mr. Balfe, the National Choral Society's opening concert, and a "Monday Popular" including two important novelties, make up the notanda of the week.

Mr. Balfe's opera is a setting of a libretto adapted by Mr. John Brougham from "The Duke's Motto." The first condition of a good opera is a good story, well arranged; and we must say that Mr. Balfe has in this instance been singularly unfortunate. The opera is a condensed, and therefore confused, version of the play, and its literary execution is of about the lowest known standard. It is not, therefore, wonderful that Mr. Balfe should have written music which, so far as can be learnt from a single hearing, is rather below than above his usual level. Let a few lines be quoted by way of illustration :-

> "O what a boundless joy is thine, A bliss beyond compare, Shedding on earth a ray divine-A mother's gentle care! Shall my lone heart forget the past, In rapture far above All thought, all hope, and find at last A mother's tender love?"

Conceive the feelings of a composer who has any perceptions of sense or grammar on having a bookfull of this put before him as the material which is to evoke his musical faculty. How is it possible, unless his genius be something superhuman, that he can write anything but what is commonplace to words of which these are a sample? Their style reminds us of nothing so much as of Dean Swift's nonsense verses:—

"Softly spread thy purple pinions, Gentle Cupid, o'er my heart: I, a slave in thy dominions— Nature must give way to art "!

Mr. Balfe, however, is not utterly paralyzed by this doggrel. Long habit, perhaps, has enabled him to defy the depressing effect which it would have on faculties not hardened by use to the current standard of libretto-dulness, and to clothe it in music which is always bright and tuneful, if it is not brilliant. But who can wonder that the stream of inspiration should lose, under these circumstances, some of its brightness and flow?

This, accordingly, is just the impression given by the new opera, "Blanche de Nevers." The music is pleasant, fluent, graceful; but it is seldom that it rises to the level of Mr. Balfe's best work. Only in one or two places, perhaps, does it do this. Taken as a whole, it is less interesting than any piece which Mr. Balfe has written during these six years past. The plot, being known to the play-going public, need not be detailed here. The favourite pieces will be-an unaccompanied quartett near the close of the first act; a ballad for soprano, "As sunlight beaming on the sum-mer lake," which might do for almost any conceivable situation in any conceivable opera; a lover's duet, "Must we part?" and a light chorus beginning "As freely as the blossoms fling." The ballad mentioned is a very sweet bit of melody, and the duet is no less exquisite a specimen of two-part writing-a most mellifluous combination of the two voices, in part unaccompanied, and in part wedded to some very charming instrumentation. The quartett, forming the chief feature of the longest finale (that to the second act) is not happy in its melody, nor is the working up of the piece managed with Mr. Balfe's usual elegance and completeness. The instrumentation throughout the opera has an air of being more ambitious than effective; and there seems a tendency to an excessive use of one or two combinations—the horns and harps for instance—which verges on mannerism. Of the performance it can only be said, as of all done by this company in its present state, that the singing of Miss Pyne is simply perfection; but that perfection in one part is scarcely enough to atone for the general mediocrity or inefficiency of the remainder of the company.

Miss Hiles, the second soprano, is a competent singer of subordinate parts, and Mr. Weiss is, of course, a satisfactory bass; if the same could be said of the tenor, there might still be some hope of the enterprise. Mr. Harrison, however, though he has talents which would make him an acceptable actor of light comedy, has defects as a singer which make his performance nearly unendurable

by ears of ordinary perceptions.

The National Choral Society began its fourth season on Wednesday by a performance of "Judas Maccabeus." There is no work which this young and vigorous body of singers does with more spirit than this. The dash and heartiness with which they sang it on Wednesday showed how the choir enjoys this splendid warlike music, and the many points it offers for display of good choral training were taken up with unfailing spirit. One sees in Mr. Martin's choir a great many young faces. To these belong young throats; and from young throats only can a body of fresh and pure soprano tone be got. The as yet unsolved problem in amateur choir-management is how to prevent young ladies from getting old while allowing them to sing themselves into experienced musicians. Mr. Martin will be met by this crux some ten years hence. At present his phalanx of young ladies, which is the most important branch of his forces, is in its prime of bright tone. Their "attack" in the grand chorus, "Fallen is the foe," where they dash off on the highest note of their register, is quite electrifying. Another good point in Mr. Martin's performances is the employment of an orchestra of moderate size. In Handel's music this is clearly right. His works are choral, not orchestral; his scores employ what would be now called only half the complement of instruments; and it is a mere piece of impertinence to expand the band to the proportions of our modern scale, and then to make up for the alleged thinness of the accompaniment by an ad libitum addition of the noisiest instruments of the nineteenth-century orchestra. The Sacred Harmonic Society is too fond of these "additional accompaniments," and of using them —which aggravates the evil—without giving explicit notice to the audience that the master's work is being mended. Mr. Martin will, we hope, continue to give the greatest of music in its unadulterated form. With all respect for Mr. Costa's great abilities, it must be said that what the exceptional genius of Mozart did for "Acis" and the "Messiah" is not a precedent to be followed without grave necessity. We believe Mr. Martin would even succeed better in the long run if he could cut down-at least on public nightsthe number of his chorus. Fortunately, indeed, scarcely any mass of human voices can be overpowering without the added blare of organs and trombones, least of all when they are trained to sing habitually at half-force, and utterly to eschew shouting. But the combination of a highly-trained choir with an orchestra is a thing as yet almost unknown in England; and the leader of such a society as Mr. Martin's has a splendid opportunity for taking up this new ground. There seems no reason why London should not have a permanent society giving performances equal to those at the irmingham Festival. Mr. Leslie has shown what can be done with a small body of singers who will submit to steady discipline for love of the art. If a choir could be formed of two or three times the size of his, and even half as well trained, the greatest choral works might be done in a manner which has scarcely yet been dreamt of.

The solo singers at Mr. Martin's performance were Miss Parepa, Miss Palmer, and Mr. Santley. Mr. Sims Reeves, who had been announced, did

not appear.

The Monday Concert of this week was chiefly remarkable for the production of two works not before heard in St. James's Hall. One was Beethoven's fine stringed quintett, the other Schubert's Pianeforte Sonata in B flat. The last is a work of extraordinary beauty, every movement ringing, if one may so say, with genius. Superbly played by Mr. Hallé, it made a great impression on the audience, and will no doubt be heard again shortly. M. Santley and Mr. W. Cooper sang the three principal pieces from Mr. Benedict's "Cour de Lion," Mr. Santley again carning boundless applause in the apostrophe to Berengaria. M. Lotto scarcely displayed his usual judgment in the selection of violin solos. He played a so-called "Fantasia-ap-passionata" by M. Vieuxtemps, which was as intrinsically wearisome as it was, on any supposition, out of place, and answered the encore gained by his brilliant execution by playing what sounded like a study of bowing, entirely without interest. Madame Goddard is to appear for the first time

on Monday next. R. B. L. CONCERTS AND MUSICAL NOTES.

MADAME GRIST has been performing in "Norma" with great applause at the Pergola Theatre at Florence.

Dr. Wylde began on Monday evening last his first course of lessons as Gresham Professor.

THE Crystal Palace concert of last Saturday included the fourth Symphony of R. Schumann, the

one in D minor.

WAGNER AND BERLIOZ.—A correspondent puts before us in a brief note the following point, heading it "The Value of French Opinion." Berlioz's opera, "Les Troyens," is a great success. Now Berlioz is a worker on Wagner's system, writing his own poem like Wagner, and, like him, making symphony, illustrative of the words, do a large share of the dramatic effect. "Wagner," so says our correspondent, "the French hissed because he was German; Berlioz they applaud because he is French." As to this, it must be conceded that the French opinion does turn very much on the nationality of the thing which it judges. It is commonly a fixed idea with a Frenchman that every conceivable thing is done better at Paris than anywhere else in the world. You may hear your neighbours in a French theatre making such remarks as "Nulle part on chante comme A Paris" as complacently as if there could not possibly be a doubt of the fact. Hence, of course, Berlioz's work has had a better chance than the like by a foreigner would have had. But, as to the intimate rapport between Wagner and Berlioz, we must dispute our correspondent's premiss. Berlioz discusses Wagner's theory in an interesting paper, included in his "A travers Chants," in a way to suggest just the contrary inference. "If," he says, in effect, "the Wagnerian theory means that dramatic music is to be dramatic—sense not to be sacrificed to sound-display not to take the place of expression, &c., then not only am I a Wagnerian, but all common-sense people are the same; if it means that we are to treat melody as obsolete, violate all the natural instincts of the ear, abandon all accepted rules of harmony, and so on, then 'je lève ma main et je jure, Non!"" We heard an ardent Wagnerian say not long ago—"My dear sir, until we utterly smash all melody, we shall never know what true music is." This was candid; but it would have rather astonished Berlioz. Berlioz seems to us simply a dramatic composer, working on the same general method as Beethoven or Mozart, only with larger use of the symphonic element, and a characteristic style of orchestral treatment.

## MUSIC FOR NEXT WEEK.

NOVEMBER 30th to DECEMBER 5th. MONDAY. — Popular Concert (Beethoven's Septett, Mdme. Goddard, Lotto, &c.), St. James's Hall, 8 p.m. FRIDAY. — Handel Festival Choir's Rehearsal ("Jephtha"), Exeter Hall, 8 p.m. SATURDAY.—Crystal Palace Orchestral Concert, 3 p.m.

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## THE DRAMA.

"PATIENT PENELOPE" AND "MY NEW PLACE" AT THE STRAND.

THOUGH far slighter in construction and infinitely less elaborated in detail than the burlesque extravaganzas which he has hitherto produced, "Patient Penelope; or, the Return of Ulysses," is one of Mr. F. C. Burnand's happiest works, and was received with hearty applause at the Strand on Wednesday evening. It is a mere bagatelle, admittedly founded upon a French piece entitled "Le Retour d'Ulysse," but extremely gay in quality, and owing little or nothing to the French original. We have more than once noticed the remarkable aptitude displayed by Mr. F. C. Burnand in wedding difficult music with capital nonsense verses; in the present piece there are several examples of his power in this respect, surprising as well as side-splitting. A large number of songs and comic dances, crammed into the one scene which comprises the whole of the piece, gives rapid, sparkling, and hilarious effect to the half-tragic plot. The action of the piece, "with a view to the elevation of the drama," as the bill informs us, "is supposed to take place in the attic story of *Penelope's* house." The "patient" wife of the long-absent Ulysses is intro-duced at the moment when she is upon the point of giving up the idea of her husband's return, and

consoling herself with the ready hand and heart of Eurymachus, the most persevering of her suitors; however, as she and her adorer are about to sit down to a little dinner tête-à-tête, Ulysses returns, disguised as a wandering minstrel of the Jem Baggs order, and hides himself where he may conveniently keep an eye on the proceedings of the diners. The substitution of a goblet of vinegar for one of wine spoils the appetite of Eurymachus, and compels him to take a hurried leave of Patient Penelope. Ulysses then determines to haunt his wavering sposa in the form of his own ghost; and at once earries out his intention by causing his shadow to be strongly thrown upon the windowblind of her chamber. Penelope, under the stress of this ghostly visitation, is fain to admit that, were her long-absent lord to return, she would prefer him to any of her suitors; and the ghost, "reduced to a shadow," as Mr. F. C. Burnand describes it, expresses relenting feelings by the perpetration of a burlesque dance to the music of the Shadow Dance in "Dinorah." He discovers himself in the flesh to his wife, and says:-

Let by-gones all be by-gones, dear; but, still, I've said I'll punch a head, and so I will! whereupon, mistaking Medon, his wife's old manservant, for one of her lovers, he pitches the innocent domestic out of window-to fall upon Eurymachus, and thus to work out the flat of poetical justice. There are only four characters in this gay little absurdity—Ulysses (Mr. George Honey), Eurymachus (Miss Maria Simpson), Penelope (Miss Ada Swanborough), and Medon (Mr. Chas. Fenton). One and all acted with abundant point and good spirits, and, with the author (who was not present), were called for at the end of their performance. The scene, painted by Mr. Chas. Fenton, is an excellent travesty of classical style; and the dresses and decorations are all in the best taste. It is announced that "Patient Penelope" can be played only till Christmas, when it will have to give place to a new burlesque by Mr. H.

J. Byron.

At the same theatre, on Monday evening, a one-act farce, entitled "My New Place," was brought out for the purpose of introducing Mr. A. Wood, late of the Bath and Bristol theatres, and more recently of the Adelphi. We cannot say anything favourable of this piece, several passages of which are shamefully coarse. Mr. A. Wood himself is said to be the concoctor. In point of plot, "My New Place" is a mere hash of old stage expedients for getting a laugh, and appears to tickle the palates of the Strand "gods" in a way that more dainty fare might fail to do. Mr. Tom Larkspur, a young gentleman of undefined social status, after holding a conversation with one of the young lady pupils of Miss Virginia Verjuice over the garden-wall of that lady's educational "Establishment," has the audacity to make his way into the house through the first-floor window. Of course he is quickly hustled into a closet to get him out of Miss Verjuice's sight. A bundle, and a hat tied in a handkerchief, both belonging to a country lout, who has brought a box of clothes for his sister, who is expected to arrive as a new maid-of-all-work, prepare the audience for certain changes of dress. Tom Larkspur emerges from the closet disguised in the Sunday suit of the country bumpkin; and, when the gallery has laughed long enough, Tom Larkspur slips behind a screen, where the new maid's box has been previously hidden, for no apparentreason. The reason is soon discovered, however, when the screen is thrown down, and Martha, the new maid, is exhibited demurely scrubbing a brass candlestick. When the gallery has done roaring, Miss Verjuice instructs Mr. Tom Larkspur, otherwise Martha, in the duties of maid-of-all-work in her house, and specially with regard to the dressing and sleeping arrangements of the parlour boarders, all to the frantic delight of the gallery and the scandal of the more delicate part of the We can hold no terms with this kind of thing, which we had begun to hope was banished from the English stage. There is no limit to wholesome drollery; but, even if there were, we should not the less protest against the introduction of its opposite upon the stage. As a vehicle for the display of Mr. A. Wood's powers as a low-comedian, the piece answers its purpose, and we judge from his acting in it that he will be a useful addition to the Strand company; we are bound to add, also, that his own bearing shows, throughout hi sperformance, in marked contrast with the improprieties of which we have complained. A comic dance and a medley song were both neatly executed by him, and his debut may, upon the whole, be considered highly successful.

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The very general interest manifested by my statements regarding the specific character of the Hungarian wines, has induced me to obtain still further particulars respecting them, and I feel much pleasure in exercising the privilege afforded me of submitting to your notice the following analysis of various wines undertaken by Dr. Wm. Kletzinsky, an eminent analytical physician of Vienna, with a view, if possible, to supplement from other sources the useful qualities of Malaga wine. He informs us that "The rather considerable ingredient of phosphate of ammonia in Malaga wine is one of the causes which secured for it the great celebrity it possesses as to its intrinsic worth; and from the undoubtedly great nutritive powers of the phosphate upon the system of the "nerves, bones, and muscles, it can easily be understood why Malaga wine became almost the only one officially acknowledged to be the wine for convalescents. During a succe-sion of inquiries in

possessing a high quantity of extracts; strong wines with high quantities of alcohol, light wines with a scanty extract, and weak wines having only a little alcohol. Each of these categories had its rightful designation and its dietetic circumference. To the arthritic patient the heavy wines would be fatal; for the sufferers from calculi it would be as dangerous to use wines of an oxalic sourness, as for those affected with tubercles the strong wines. Now, to these three main principles has been joined a fourth—the quantity of the phosphate. The phosphor is for the organic nature such a precious element, that everything able to furnish it should be held worthy of being encompassed within the halo of its own bi-chemical glory. The relative contents of phosphor in the wine must, therefore, influence aright the judgment as to its dietetic merits in general, and especially its therapeutic indication.

## " ' No life without Phosphor.'

"As to the nature and degrees of diseases in which the use of wines rick in phosphoric acid are proved to be most beneficial, it is particularly in the convalescent from typhus, exhausting perspirations, the so-called adynames, and the immense number of those multinominal chronic pains which chemically originate from the deprivation of the body of the phosphoric acid, and slightly affecting the system of the bones or the muscles. the glands and fibres in scrofulous persons, or even the peripheric and central system of the nerves. These diseases never can be cured by calcinated oyster-shells, bone-ashes, oseolith, spatit, or the mineralogical phosphorite, or by any other kind of organic phosphoric acid or cold application. The doses of all these bodies would pass through and leave the intestine quite untouched, without effecting a resorption, still less an assimilation."

MUNICH, April 18, 1861.

"Not long ago I read Dr. Kletzinsky's analytical article, and my belief is that the Hungarian wines, whose generous qualities I fully appreciate, have over other wines a particular restorative virtue, to be attributed to the phosphoric acid which they contain. In a dietetical point of view, it must be taken into consideration that the Hungarian wines are generally richer in alcohol than the Bordeaux wines.

"J. LIEBIG, M.Pr." " (Signed)

The attention of the Clergy is respectfully called to the pure

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